

INCIDENTS  
BY THE WAY


MORE RECOLLECTIONS

FIFTH  
EDITION

Wm. R. KENAN, Jr.

1958





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# *Incidents by the Way*

More Recollections



FIFTH EDITION



WM. R. KENAN, JR.

1958

Reference is made to the  
First, Second, Third and Fourth Editions  
Published 1946, 1949, 1952 and 1955







WM. R. KENAN, JR.





DONE AT INTERVALS  
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1958

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**HOTEL PONCE DE LEON**  
**A GREAT ARCHITECTURAL ACHIEVEMENT**  
**ENVISIONED AND BUILT BY**  
**HENRY M. FLAGLER**  
**IN ST. AUGUSTINE, FLORIDA**

Hotel Ponce de Leon is a triumph of great architects' skill and the culmination of a rich man's dream. The man was Henry Morrison Flagler, the architects, Thomas Hastings and John Carrere, of New York City.

It was in Saint Augustine that Florida's development began when, in 1885, Mr. Flagler set out to create an "American Riviera" along the East Coast of Florida.

The following description of some of the more fabulous phases of Hotel Ponce de Leon, which opened on January tenth, 1888, was written by Messrs. Carrere and Hastings shortly after the opening. . . . "The Hotel Ponce de Leon and its grounds cover six acres in the heart of the city of Saint Augustine, Florida. The four-story main structure is built on three sides of a quadrangular court (the enclosed court with its great fountain is 150 feet square), on the fourth side extends a one-story portico centered with great, Medieval iron gates. Twin towers on east and west wings of main structure rise 165 feet against the sky.

"Worthy of mention are the Spanish roof tiles, the terra cotta of the porticoes, loggias, the corner turrets reaching to the towers, the open galleries and corbels, all in harmony with the Spanish Renaissance style of architectural beauty.

"The great rotunda is almost a forest of columns, some oak, some marble. The floor is an elaborate mosaic built of bits of marble laid in Renaissance manner. All mosaic and marble work was done by Italian craftsmen, especially brought to St. Augustine for the purpose. The wood carvings were done by experts skilled in that work. A great portion of the magnificently carved and dressed oak finish for the interior of the building was prepared in New York and shipped to Saint Augustine Harbor by coastal schooners.

“The rotunda is supported by four great tiers and eight oak pillars on each of which are carved four life-size caryatides. The origin of the caryatides, life-size and carved by hand, was taken from the Temple of Diana, where maidens or priestesses served those who ministered before the altar.

“Other allegorical figures include the elements—fire, water, air and earth. Figures, life-size, typical of adventure are located on the pendentives of the ceiling on the second story, these are Adventure, Discovery, Conquest and Civilization, these are very elaborate and rich in design. Adventure wears a cuirass and on her helmet rests an eagle’s crest. She holds a drawn sword. Discovery is robed in draperies of sea blue, in her right hand is half a globe, the other rests on a tiller. Conquest, clad in martial red, with helmet and cuirass, grasps a sword, significant of war-won supremacy. Civilization is clothed in white and wears a crown. In her lap is an open book, symbol of knowledge.

“The stately ballroom with its great onyx mantel is strikingly beautiful. The ceilings here and in the grand parlor and drawing room adjoining are painted with cupids and charming garlands of flowers. This work was done by Virgilio Tojetti, one of the most renowned artists of the day. In these rooms are hung a collection of magnificent paintings.

“The great dining hall, approached by a long flight of marble steps, is breath-taking in sweep of size, appointments, proportions, elegance and beauty. The oval salon is divided in two rounded ends by rich oak pillars that support a great dome. The coats-of-arms of the various Spanish provinces, rich with argent, gules and azure, are worked in with telling effect. Great Spanish galleys of the time of Ponce de Leon are worked into the decor and a frieze of laughing cupids, bearing cups of wine seem to welcome the guests.

“An ingenious feature is an epitomized history of Florida which is worked in on silver panels on the ceilings of the bays. All these beautiful paintings were the work of George W. Maynard, famed for his figure paintings.

“Bay windows of stained glass illustrate allegorical subjects



and admit a soft light lending an enchantment to this ensemble of allegory and history executed so magnificently in color, illustration and exquisite in detail.

“Everywhere throughout this majestic hotel is the spirit of the Spanish Renaissance, which was chosen not only for its inherent beauty for the purpose but on account of the historical association of the town and the Spanish atmosphere which clings to St. Augustine. Moreover, this choice of architecture



Mrs. J. K. Wise (left) and Mrs. Graham Kenan with their brother, Mr. William R. Kenan, Jr., pictured recently at the Hotel Ponce de Leon, their winter home.

allowed a wide latitude being strongly tinged with contact with the Moors.”

Following this description of the hotel as a work of great architectural beauty, Thomas Hastings and John Carrere pay tribute to the city as well, in these words: . . . “The climate of Saint Augustine, its old-world charm and its position, nestling beside the old sea wall, add greatly to the pleasure to be derived from a winter’s sojourn at the palatial Hotel Ponce de Leon.”

### LETTERS FROM HARRY WALTERS

Mr. Harry Walters was a good friend of my parents and I saw a good deal of him in my boyhood days.

As stated in the First Volume of “Incidents By The Way,” he gave me money when going to Australia—as shown by the following telegram—

A433B Lv. sl 57 paid 10:44 P.M.

Bar Harbor, Maine,

August 11th, 1896

W. R. Kenan,

Care Electro Gas Co.

45 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

Delighted to hear of confidence placed in you and sorry not to bid you good luck in person. I have wired Hallgarten and Co. twenty six Broad Street to hand you exchange for one hundred pounds which it will be well for you to keep in your pocket in case of mishap before your return to America.

H. Walters.

The following letter shows that he kept up with my movements. . . .



## ATLANTIC COAST LINE

H. Walters,  
President.

Wilmington, N. C.  
January 14th, 1897.

My dear Kenan:

I have your letter from Sidney of the 20th of November, and have read it with much interest, as I did equally a previous letter written on your way across the Pacific.

I can readily understand your situation in an English colony. Englishmen are never anxious that other nationalities should succeed: They are without exception the longest successful nation that the world has seen. Their progress has practically never been checked. Their self-reliance is enormous and their desire to override all opposition is an inheritance of generations. All of this makes it the more important that a young man situated as you are should be infinitely more careful and deliberate in everything that you do than you would be if you were at home in America.

I note what you say in regard to the results of free-trade in New South Wales, and I have no doubt this is correct. I have always been myself a free-trader: At the same time I do not think that we should jump suddenly from protected industries to free-trade without giving time for invested capital to adapt itself to the new conditions.

Of course, it is for you to decide whether there is a possibility of your making a success with your venture in Sidney or not and I presume from what you write that the question will be entirely in your hands. I think I once expressed to you that a friend of mine, who had watched the subject of acetylene gas, feared that its cost of production would be too great to make it of practical use, and upon this, of course, depends entirely its success. If you should

find that my friend is correct the sooner you get out of any responsibility in the matter the better.

I am quite sure that you hear regularly from home and know how all the family are. Both your father and mother were complaining a little during the holidays but I understand they are quite well again. Your father paid a visit to Macon but returned some time ago.

With best wishes for your success.

Yours very truly,

H. Walters.

### MY FIRST YEARS WITH FLAGLER

My first four years with Mr. Flagler I had no title nor was I on the payroll of any of the Flagler corporations. As stated previously, I was told to do something and I did it, signing Mr. Flagler's name to all contracts, purchases, agreements, etc.

The following letter, written in longhand by Mr. Flagler himself, shows how he compensated me:

“Palm Beach, Fla.,

Aug. 17th, 1901.

“Dear William—

In commemoration of the happy event to take place one week from today, I ask your acceptance of the 500 shares Traders Paper Co. Stock (par value \$50,000) which I enclose herewith as a mark of my esteem and sincere regard for you. No one but Mary Lily knows of this act and no one else will through me. With every wish for your success and happiness, I am

Most cordially yours,

H. M. Flagler.

To

W. R. Kenan, Jr.”



## KENAN STADIUM TRULY ONE OF CHAPEL HILL'S BEAUTY SPOTS

In a natural valley about two thousand feet from the center of the campus of the University and just above the spot long known as the Meeting of the Waters, there is a natural amphitheatre, easily approached by paths that follow the lay of the land. The brook that flows through this valley has cut a ravine so that the floor of the stream is level and smooth and the banks rise with equal steepness on either side.

Here is the site of Kenan Memorial Stadium. In the completeness and harmony of its appointments, the convenience of its seating, and the beauty of its design and location, Kenan Memorial Stadium is unique among the stadia of America.

The stadium, truly one of Chapel Hill's beauty spots, was a gift of William Rand Kenan Jr., a distinguished and loyal son of the University of the Class of 1894, and constructed as a memorial to his mother, Mary (Hargrave), and his father, William Rand Kenan.

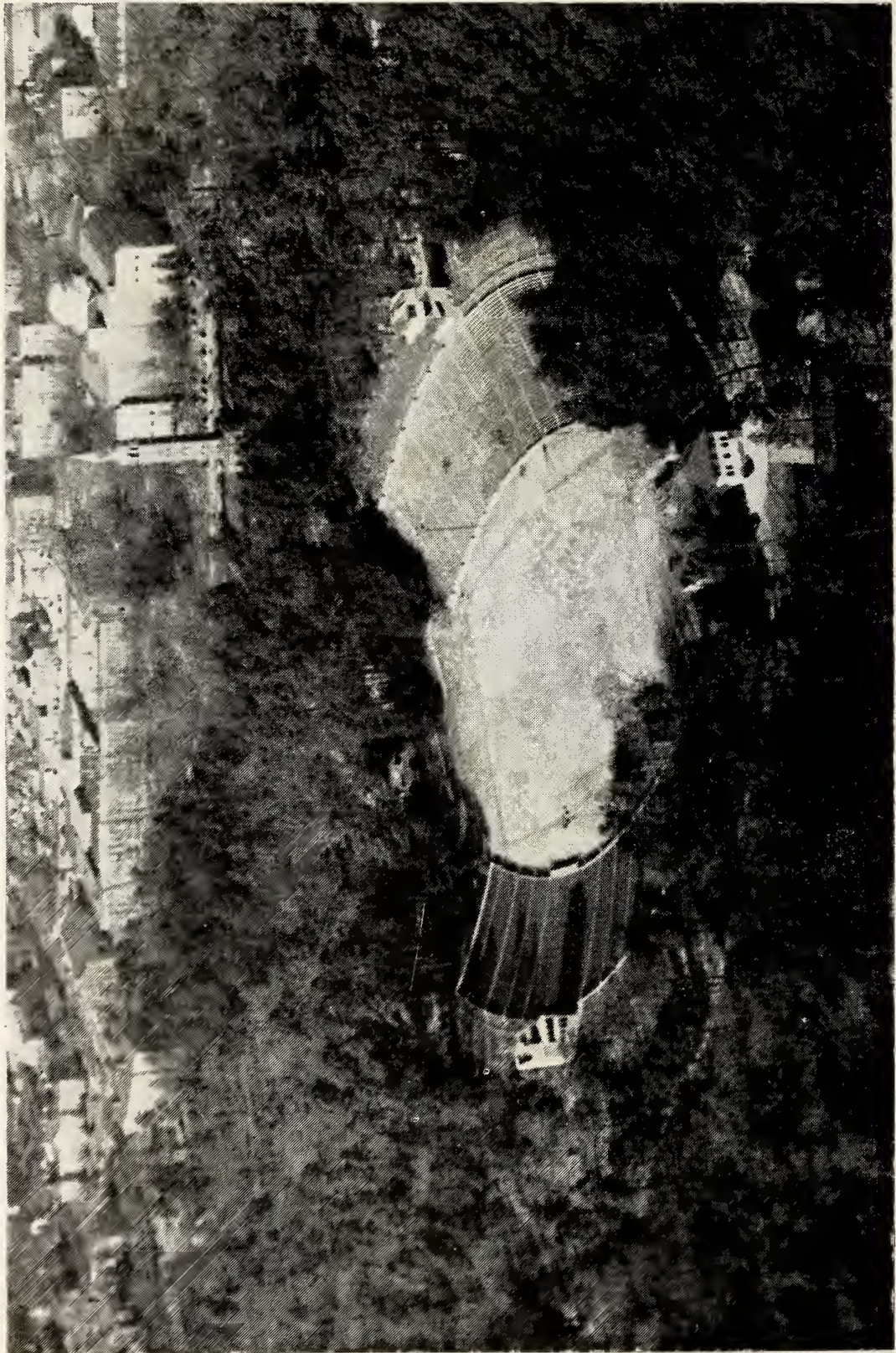
The original cost was \$275,000, but the property is valued at many times that figure now, of course. After the stadium proper was built, a field house was added at one end of the field, where both the visiting and home teams dress for games.

Construction of the stadium was begun in November, 1926, and completed in August, 1927. The first football game played there was between Carolina and Davidson on Nov. 12. However, the formal opening and dedication did not take place until the game with Virginia on Thanksgiving Day. The Tar Heels won by 14-13.

The stadium, as originally built, seated 24,000. For many years, however, an ingenious arrangement of portable grandstands, used for all the games, has increased the capacity to 43,917 seats. On occasions even this capacity has been increased, and games with Virginia, Duke, Notre Dame and Texas have accommodated as many as 46,000.



On one side of the stadium is a guest box, used by Trustees of the University and other special guests. The press box, of similar outward design, is located on the other side, directly opposite. Gifts from Mr. Kenan enabled a complete re-



The first distinctive symbol of the University recognizable by visitors who approach Chapel Hill by air is the magnificent Stadium in the pines with the majestic Bell Tower standing guard over on the Campus.



building of these structures in 1950. The new press box is of unique design, different from the sprawling press boxes and highly functional for reporters, radio men and photographers and has been highly praised for its beauty and utility.

The stadium is used primarily for football games but on occasions other functions are held there, including the annual Commencement exercises of the University, conducted in the twilight.

*(Reprint from CHAPEL HILL WEEKLY, Tuesday, September 13, 1955)*

## FABLED LOCKPORT MILLIONAIRE STILL WORKS HARD AT 85

By JERRY ALLAN

*Buffalo Evening News Bureau*

Lockport—Millionaires are always legendary, but William Rand Kenan Jr., still boundlessly energetic at 85, is a legend for more reasons than money.

Fabled Mr. Kenan, whose father was a Confederate captain, is a chemist, philanthropist, financier, builder, corporation director, scientific farmer and cattle breeder. He is the first citizen of Lockport and St. Augustine, Fla.

It is a paradox that this resolute, aggressive Scotch-Irishman, enormously successful for 60 years is better known in Wall Street and Florida than in Western New York, and he has lived in Lockport more than half a century.

In 1892, studying chemistry at the University of North Carolina, Mr. Kenan, only 19, helped in a laboratory discovery that was to revolutionize industry. The discovery was calcium carbide, the main element in the production of acetylene, the gas used in welding.

Although the young student might have been rich on the spot with such a priceless find, he gave a "notebook" detailing his work to an older engineer who promptly sold the patent rights in 1895 to a Philadelphia syndicate which just as promptly formed the Carbide Manufacturing Co.

Patent rights covering different districts of the nation also

were sold, and other companies were formed to produce carbide. Ultimately, those small companies were combined into industrial giants like the Union Carbon & Carbide Corp. today worth billions.

And Mr. Kenan, a 23-year-old college graduate looking for work, was offered a job by the new Philadelphia group. Cheap power was needed to produce carbide, and he was sent to power-rich Niagara Falls to supervise construction of the first carbide plant in the world.

It was a back-breaker. Mr. Kenan worked ten hours a day, seven days a week for \$25 a week. He was instructed to supervise the plant and its workers, make further tests and, his employers said:

“We will expect you also to keep the time of the other men, to make out the payrolls and to attend to all the correspondence and the shipments of carbide and the receipts of lime and coke.”

Mr. Kenan, who is probably the only millionaire in the U. S. who still gets to work at 7 AM every day, recalled recently:

“That offer may seem amusing to many in this day and age but I accepted it with alacrity. It looked to me like an unusual opportunity and I was only too happy to receive the appointment.”

It is astonishing that a man with such a Herculean work load could still find time for recreation but Mr. Kenan managed. Niagara Falls at the turn of the century had few social attractions and the zestful plant manager thought nothing of bicycling 25 miles to Lockport, a more congenial place.

Lockport to Mr. Kenan was a substitute for leisurely Wilmington, N. C., his birthplace on April 30, 1872, and the city of his boyhood.

And the young manager was an immediate success in Niagara Falls. So successful indeed that before 1900, when he was still but 26, he had been around the world, building carbide plants in Australia, London and Berlin.

But young men fall in love and Lockport was magnetic because of a pretty girl named Alice Pomroy. And Mr.

Kenan was wearing out bicycles. So in 1900 he left Niagara Falls to join the Traders Paper Co. in Lockport as assistant manager for construction and operation.

During his "spare time" in Niagara Falls, Mr. Kenan learned everything there was to learn about electric power, and that proved to be immensely important when, during business trips to New York in 1899 and 1900, he met the fabulous Henry M. Flagler.

A railroad magnate, Mr. Flagler was one of the first promoters to see the billion-dollar development potential of Florida. He was intrigued with Mr. Kenan's knowledge of electric power and hired him to design and construct the first power plant in Miami.

The Lockport wizard was on his way. Literally, he "electrified" Miami, and he has been a factor ever since in Florida's glittering expansion. He was an intimate of Mr. Flagler in daring business ventures—power plants, hotels and railroads, the cornerstones of the Florida peninsula.

As Mr. Flagler grew older, he relied more and more on young Mr. Kenan. The link between the two men was solidified in 1901 when Mary Lily Kenan, his sister, was married to Mr. Flagler.

Remember Alice Pomroy in Lockport? Mr. Kenan could never forget her, and on April 9, 1904, they were married. Lockport and Western New York have been his real home ever since. He lives now at 433 Locust St. Mrs. Kenan died in 1947. The couple had no children.

In 1904 Mr. Kenan was elected a director of the Florida East Coast Railway and the Florida East Coast Hotel companies. Mr. Flagler died in 1913. His will named Mr. Kenan an executor of an estate totaling nearly \$100,000,000. High inheritance taxes were still to come. Mr. Kenan became a millionaire.

He acquired control of the Western Block Co. of Lockport in 1907, and sold block and tackle all over the world. He is still the company president, and it is there his working day begins at 7 o'clock in the morning.



In 1913 Mr. Kenan bought a Jersey cow for "family" use. That cow led to Randleigh Farms, a 475-acre show place in Chestnut Ridge, near Lockport. He has been breeding prize-winning Jersey cattle for 36 years, has written a standard dairy farming text and his cattle have won 338 prizes, including 103 gold medals.

Agriculturists from everywhere have flocked to Randleigh Farms, lured by scientific farming at work.

Mr. Kenan used sulfa and antibiotics on his herds long before those drugs helped humanity. He was named a master breeder in 1945 by the American Jersey Cattle Association, an award made only twice in 77 years.

Mr. Kenan has made a lot of money and he has given a lot of it away. His philanthropies include the Kenan Memorial Fountain, a gift to his native Wilmington, and Kenan Stadium, which seats 23,000 persons, to his alma mater at Chapel Hill, N. C.

But perhaps because he had no children of his own, his greatest pleasure comes from the \$150,000 he donated for Camp Kenan, a 125-acre site in Barker, on Lake Ontario, used by the Lockport YMCA as a summer boys' camp.

Let no man misjudge him as "retired," even at 85. Spry Mr. Kenan stays remarkably alert to business details, has a multiplicity of business interests in dividing his time between Lockport and St. Augustine.

Mr. Kenan was one of 12 to receive citations for achievement in civic and industrial affairs from the University of Buffalo this week in connection with ceremonies dedicating Tower Dormitory.

Chemistry was Mr. Kenan's boyhood interest, and it has never flagged. He is a charter member of the American Chemical Society, and when the society's Western New York section honored him in 1957 at its 50th anniversary banquet at Canisius College he wrote and read a lively paper on his youthful research into carbide.

As an undergraduate, he told the society, he worked with

a professor and an industrialist on a process to make cheap aluminum. The test tube was an electric furnace.

In cleaning the furnace, Mr. Kenan recalled, "a crystalline mass, dark-colored and spongy, had been wheeled out unto a dump. When rained on, it gave off a small amount of gas with a noxious odor."

The teen-age chemist was told to "investigate" the dump, and he said "it was easy to recognize that we were dealing with a carbide of calcium."

But "a more important question to settle was the nature of the gas. I passed some of it through a copper solution and recognized the result as copper acetylide."

Mr. Kenan told his fellow chemists that on that day, nearly 50 years ago, he knew he had found "a cheap and convenient method of making acetylene."

That "wonderful brilliance and beauty" is the same blue flame that fascinates every sidewalk superintendent who watches welders working with acetylene torches. And Mr. Kenan's reward for his part in this phenomenal achievement was a job with great responsibility at long hours for low pay.

Does Mr. Kenan have a philosophy for living? He has written much of that philosophy in two privately circulated books, but he sums it up simply:

"Keep busy, don't worry about anything, never eat too much, exercise daily, and help your fellow man."

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*(Reprint from BUFFALO EVENING NEWS MAGAZINE,  
Buffalo, N. Y., Oct. 3, 1957)*

## UB CITATIONS FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE GIVEN TO STATE AND AREA LEADERS IN 12 VARIED FIELDS

The University of Buffalo today presented citations to leaders in 12 fields for distinguished public service and contributions to business and community life.

The citations were presented in connection with ceremonies marking the dedication of the Tower Dormitory and as a

part of Education Day activities of the World Port Celebration. Those honored and their citations:

### PUBLIC SERVICE

Gov. Averell Harriman, financier, statesman, public servant—For decades his manifold careers have touched the nerve centers of the nation's industrial, political and cultural life. His broad experience in commercial enterprises and governmental administration made him a logical choice for high posts in the national government, including a Cabinet appointment as Secretary of Commerce.

During the crucial period of World War II and post-war adjustment, he was chosen by two presidents for special, difficult assignments abroad, representing the United States as ambassador to the USSR . . . to Great Britain, as a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Committee and as a director of the Mutual Security Agency . . . (He is cited) for his paramount services to national interests . . . and his devotion to the public and educational welfare of the state . . .

### EDUCATION

The Very Rev. Philip Emmett Dobson, SJ, LLD, educator, moderator, Christian leader—Throughout a fruitful career he has brought to bear on worldly problems of labor and industry the enlightening impact of Christian morals and judicious inquiry. Dedicated to the field of education, he was especially prepared . . . at Seton Hall College.

He entered the Society of Jesus in 1929 and was ordained in the priesthood . . . in 1942. His unusual ability . . . was recognized by his appointment as director of Xavier Institute of Industrial Relations in New York City, as associate director of the Crown Heights Labor School in Brooklyn and as founder of the Institute of Industrial Relations, St. Peter's College, Jersey City.

His crusading leadership was acclaimed when he was given the Catholic Action Award by the Knights of Columbus of



Buffalo and the Robert V. Kinkead Award for the fight against communism in the labor movement . . . (He is cited) for his brilliant and invaluable contributions in fields of education, labor-management relations and Christian service.

## HISTORY

Richard Hofstadter, Ph.D, scholar, historian, educator—A distinguished and prolific author of works on American history and institutions, he has applied his versatile talents to teaching and lecturing as well as to research and writing. At present professor of history at Columbia University, he has also served on the faculties of the University of Maryland, Brooklyn College, the College of the City of New York, Princeton University, the University of California, Cambridge University and the Salzburg Seminar in American Studies.

His "Social Darwinism in American Thought" received the Albert J. Beveridge Prize of the American Historical Association and his 1955 book, "The Age of Reform," was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for history.

A score of years ago, the University of Buffalo graduated Richard Hofstadter summa cum laude and now proudly cites him as a great scholar and major American historian.

## PSYCHOLOGY

Daniel Katz, PhD, psychologist, author, editor—A brilliant and early scholar in the challenging field of psychology, he gave forceful and far-sighted leadership to departments of psychology at Princeton University, Brooklyn College and the University of Michigan. His outstanding achievement in psychological surveys was recognized by his appointment as research director of the Surveys Division of the Office of War Information during World War II.

In 1946, his colleagues chose him as president of the Division of Social Psychology & Personality of the American Psychological Association. A national and international authority in the field of psychology, he has served on the editorial

board of Public Opinion Quarterly, while writing several important books in the field of social psychology.

He recently edited "Public Opinion and Propaganda," an outstanding work in this field which included contributions from many of the leading American scholars in public opinion subjects . . . (He is cited) for his outstanding contributions in research, writing and teaching in the field of psychology.

## INDUSTRIAL CIVIC AFFAIRS

William Rand Kenan, Jr., chemist, industrialist, civic leader—His career symbolizes the spirit of America. From young manhood, when he assisted in the laboratory discovery of calcium carbide, which has revolutionized industrial processes, he has been a creative builder. He has contributed his constructive talents to many enterprises in the fields of chemistry, power, railways, finance and scientific farming.

He has traveled the globe and his native land to create industry through chemistry and electricity. He has made a vast contribution to the growth of the Niagara Frontier and to a large section of the State of Florida. In addition, he has found time to devote to civic affairs.

His concern for the welfare of young people has been manifested through his contributions to facilities for camping and university athletic activities . . . The university . . . bestows this citation . . . for his distinguished contributions to the progress and welfare of America and for his devotion to fundamental humanities.

## CHEMICAL INDUSTRY

Bjarne Klaussen, chemist, scientist, industrialist—A graduate of the University of Oslo, he brought to the United States, his adopted fatherland, a rare combination of talents as humanist, scientist and business leader. Endowed with a genius for research and development in the basic science of chemistry, he has applied his great ability toward new and fruitful production methods in the electro-chemical industry.



He has served as president and director of nationally known electro-chemical firms while devoting himself untiringly to mutual understanding between the United States and Norway. (He now is president of Hooker-Electrochemical Co., Niagara Falls.)

For such worthy and unselfish services the late King Haakon VII of Norway decorated him in 1954 . . . (He is cited) for his outstanding services in the field of chemistry and his promotion of cultural interests within and beyond national boundaries.

### PHYSICS

Harold Lyons, PhD, physicist, radio engineer, inventor—A gifted pioneer in the field of nuclear physics, he was an outstanding scholar at the University of Buffalo and University of Michigan . . . (He served as) a scientist in the United States Naval Research Laboratory and as chief of the Microwave Standards Section of the National Bureau of Standards.

In 1949 he received . . . the Arthur S. Fleming Award for outstanding achievements in the field of radio engineering, the Department of Commerce Exceptional Service Gold Medal Award for the first “atomic clock” and the National Bureau of Standards Superior Accomplishment Award.

In 1952, he was chosen to receive the Washington Academy of Sciences Award for Achievement in the Physical Sciences. He now heads the atomic physics laboratories of a . . . West Coast aircraft producer . . . (He is cited) for his epochal inventions and research.

### PHOTOGRAPHY AND INDUSTRY

Donald McMaster, chemist, industrialist—Both England, the land of his birth, and the United States, the country he adopted as a schoolboy, have benefited greatly from the administrative genius and cultural breadth of this pioneer in the science of photography. After studying at the University of Buffalo in 1917, he began his brilliant career at the photographic capital—Rochester.

There and in Harrow, Eng., . . . he performed with matchless efficiency tasks ranging from laboratory chemist to industry manager. In peace and war he has given leadership which transcends national boundaries to the vital photographic and motion-picture industry, providing an important link in the international exchange of scientific and industrial know-how.

The University . . . cites Donald McMaster for his invaluable contributions in establishing new world frontiers in the photographic industry.

## INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Ralph F. Peo, industrialist, inventor, civic leader—Always in the forefront in organizing and developing great American business enterprises, he became a community dynamo energizing a host of worthy civic causes. Religious and educational organizations, special government commissions, financial projects and even sports-club ventures have responded to his magic touch.

He now actively heads one great American industrial concern (Houdaille Industries Inc.) and shares his time as adviser and director of many other vital business enterprises.

In addition, he has devoted his imaginative mind to more than a hundred of his own inventions. . . . (He is cited) as a pioneer in industrial development and a worthy example of civic leadership.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

The Rt. Rev. Lauriston Livingston Scaife, DD, STD, LLD, educator, religious leader, community servant—Though his professional training and official positions of leadership have been in the Episcopal Church, he has carried out manifold worthy activities as teacher, author, editor, Navy chaplain and civic leader.

He has used his versatile talents outside his great office to promote peace where there has been discord, understanding where there has been intolerance, faith where there had been

despair. In a period of crisis for many churches of Eastern Europe he has rendered signal service to both clergy and laity in Polish, Greek and Russian churches.

The University . . . respectfully cites the Rt. Rev. Lauriston Livingston Scaife, seventh bishop of the Diocese of Western New York of the Episcopal Church, for his outstanding contributions of community service and courageous leadership in both spiritual and secular affairs.

## NUCLEAR SCIENCE

John Arthur Swartout, PhD, nuclear scientist, editor, educator—A native son of the Niagara Frontier and graduate of the University of Buffalo, he applied his genius in chemistry to the vast and vital field of nuclear science and engineering . . . Among his many important responsibilities has been that of United States delegate to the Geneva Conference on Peaceful Uses of the Atom.

At present, he occupies the post of deputy director of nuclear energy research with a great national laboratory at Oak Ridge, Tenn., while carrying out diverse duties in educational and civic enterprises.

The University of Buffalo, two decades after awarding him his bachelor's degree, takes great pride in citing (him) . . . for contributions of world-wide consequence in the field of nuclear science.

## LAW

Justice Alger ASA Williams, LLB, attorney, jurist, civic leader—An exemplary product of the University of Buffalo, he has rendered invaluable services to the Western New York community as a practicing attorney, as president of the Bar Association of Erie County and as justice of the Supreme Court, Eighth Judicial District of New York.

His great reputation for breadth of vision and wise insight qualified him for the special assignment as judge of the Eighth Judicial District to Study Court Procedure. He has shared his great fund of legal knowledge with the younger



generation by lecturing at the University of Buffalo School of Law for over two decades.

He has served untiringly and selflessly in a host of educational, cultural and civic enterprises. The University of Buffalo . . . (cites) one of her most distinguished sons . . . for his long and impressive record of outstanding contributions in the fields of law and jurisprudence and for his lifetime of devotion to the public good.

*(Reprint from BUFFALO EVENING NEWS, Monday, Sept. 30, 1957)*

## UNIVERSITY CHERISHES ILLUSTRIOUS ALUMNI

The next time you are in Woollen Gymnasium, pause a moment in the spacious, spotless foyer and take a look at the portrait hanging on the left wall.

If you are a Carolina man, it should mean something to you. The subject, a grayish, banker-resembling, pleasant-countenanced man, who was given to gentle smiles and casual chuckles, is the late Charles Thomas Woollen. Among many other distinctions, he definitely and incontrovertibly was the father of organized athletics at the University.

He was a distinguished citizen, able, courageous, visionary, a first class business man and executive who knew the value of a dollar and abided by it assiduously. He could drive as hard a bargain as the next one, but he was dealing in the University's dollars, of which there was never enough, and he was scrupulously fair.

The archives reveal that as far back as 1876 there was an Athletic Association of sorts, for which undergraduates taxed themselves to provide equipment and trainers. A proficient gymnast named Julian M. Baker was in charge of a make-shift outdoor gymnasium. Football found its beginnings in 1888, baseball in 1891, track in 1900, tennis in 1908. There were famous teams in those early years, too, such as Coach-Captain Milke Holt's 1892 Football Fearless Fifteen, a combination of rugged mustached pioneers that won four games in a single week; and such as the 1898 gridiron assembly,

captained by Frank Rogers and featuring Ed Gregory, Vernon Howell, and Ernest Graves, among others. This, incidentally, was the only University football team in history to go through a season undefeated and untied.

But that was before the blue began. No really effective organization and stability, remotely suggestive of what we have today, came about until Charlie Woollen appeared on the scene in the Class of 1904. He came and he remained. And from 1911 to 1932, he was graduate manager. This was the era in which an athletic program was firmly established. Suitable facilities rose from the village's forest, slopes and rocks. When days were darkest, he personally endorsed bank notes to keep the Tar Heels throwing, running, batting, kicking, scoring and getting scored on, winning and losing. And he enticed others to do likewise.

Under Charlie Woollen's acute direction and through his far-sighted vision, the facilities grew from two small, unenclosed cow pasture playing fields and a small gymnasium to a plant embracing beautiful Kenan stadium, Fetzer track stadium, Emerson baseball stadium; the Tin Can, a crude but workman-like temporary arena which witnessed many wondrous feats; a battery of smooth, well tailored tennis courts, upwards of a dozen intramural diamonds; and finally the model new gymnasium, home of the Department of Physical Education and headquarters of athletics, the building that bears his name. In an eulogy to Mr. Woollen, who died in 1938, shortly after the structure was opened, President Frank Graham said: "If any building ever was the projection of the dreams of any one man, it is this gymnasium which the University Trustees have voted unanimously to name for Charlie Woollen."

Blessed be another brilliant alumnus ('89), Mr. William Rand Kenan, Jr., great and generous friend of the University and foremost financial benefactor to its athletic program.

Mr. Kenan strayed from his beloved alma mater after graduation to become, in the big world, an international industrialist. He discovered carbide and made monumental researches in chemistry. He also achieved phenomenal success in assorted

other fields, including banking, engineering, cattle breeding, hotel building and operation.

Although he moved away, he has been ever present in spirit. Sponsoring and financing the famous Kenan Professorships, he made a vast contribution to culture and scholarship, the extent of which it is impossible to measure. This fund has been an inspiration for study and research and has provided for such, and the University's faculty has grown in prestige and influence through its benefits.

Mr. Kenan has shared his wealth with many worthy causes and has been especially magnanimous toward athletics at the University, the field in which we are primarily concerned here. An athlete himself in his undergraduate days, football and baseball varsity man, he has always had a warm spot for athletics and has given large sums of money to aid the University's program.

His gifts have included Kenan Stadium, one of the most beautiful football fields in the nation, the field house, the portable bleachers which have enlarged the facilities. And his donations made possible the erection of the new Kenan Stadium press and guest boxes and the new electric score boards. His interest has been unflagging.

*(Tuesday, September 13, 1955)*

## **KENAN CLAN UNIVERSITY'S BEST FRIEND**

**Have Given Devotion, Millions of Dollars  
Since First Gift of \$50 in 1790**

**By AL G. DICKSON**

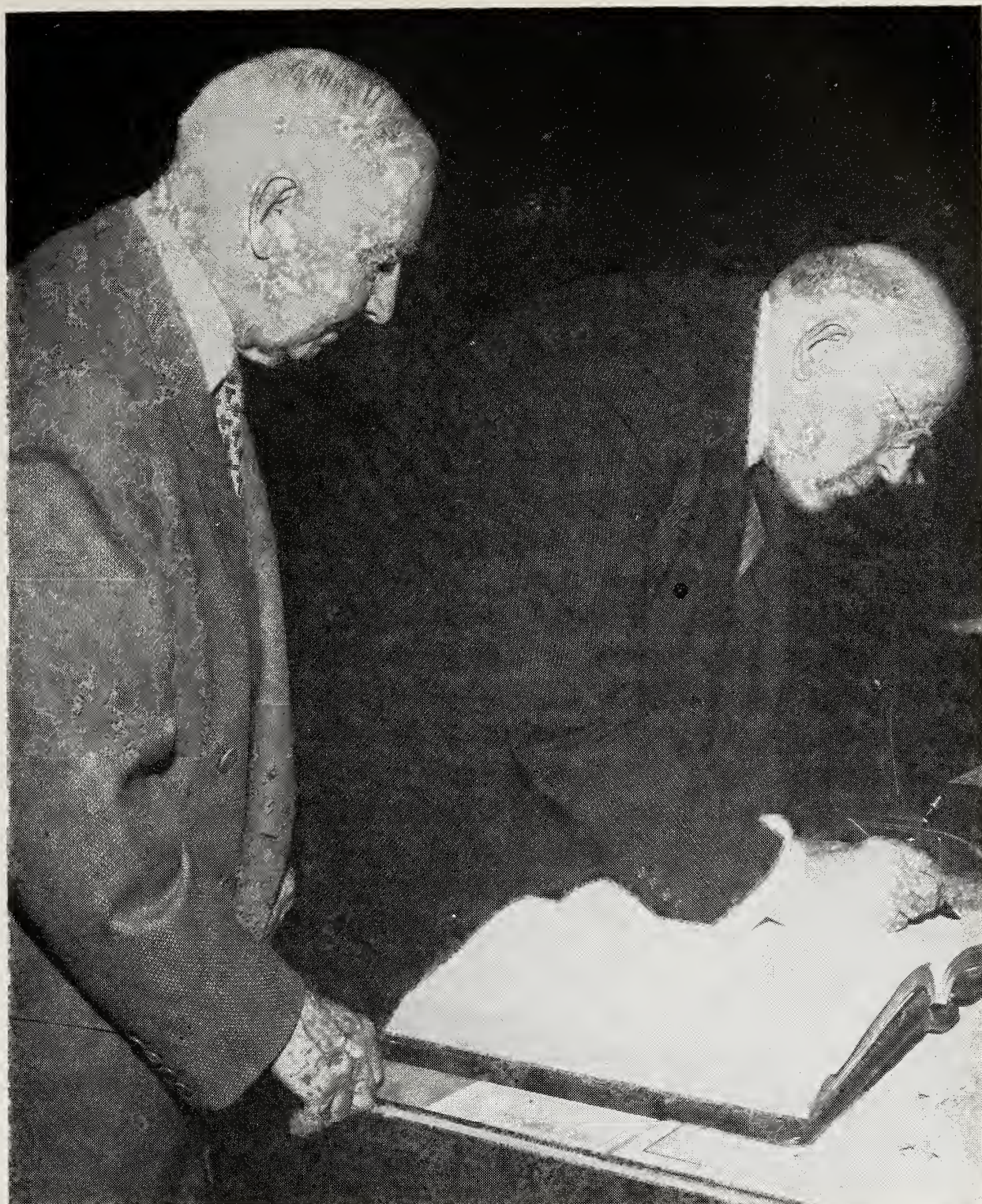
No family has contributed as much in devotion, wise counsel and money for as many years to a state university in the United States as has the Kenan family to the University of North Carolina.

Admittedly, that is a big statement.

But that is the way it should be—to leave itself open for challenge. We don't believe it will be challenged.

One may think immediately of the Dukes and their benevo-





Wm. R. Kenan, Jr. and J. Motley Morehead

lent relationship with old Trinity college and later Duke University. But it is not a state-supported university.

A large part of the story of the Kenans is told by A. C. Howell, secretary of the faculty of the University of North Carolina, in his book, "The Kenan Professorships."



## FIRST CONTRIBUTION

This story goes back to 1790 when James Kenan, of Duplin county and a North Carolina leader during the Revolutionary period, was among the first trustees elected to the University. To him goes the historic distinction of being the first Kenan to contribute to the University. He gave \$50—a lot of money in those days—towards construction of the first building, Old East, on the campus.

“Five Kenans have served as trustees for a total of 51 years; eight bearing the Kenan name have been students and the University has received benefactions from eight members of the family. Moreover, except for the period between 1800 and 1836, the Kenan family of Kenansville, North Carolina, has been associated with the University of North Carolina since its foundation. During the last one hundred years this association has been close and intimate,” wrote Mr. Howell.

The two Kenan gifts to the University attracting the most public attention were endowment of the Kenan Professorships by Mrs. Mary Lily Kenan Flagler Bingham, in memory of her father and mother, and Kenan stadium, given by William Rand Kenan, Jr., who was born in Wilmington.

Mrs. Bingham died in Louisville, Ky., on July 17, 1917, and was buried in Oakdale cemetery here July 31. When the will was probated on August 3 of that year, it was found that she had established a fund for the university “for the purpose of paying the salaries of professors thereof.” The Bingham estate first proposed that the University accept \$1,250,000 in the endowment. After negotiations, in which the Kenan family sided with the University, the amount was raised to more than \$2 million to assure the payment of \$75,000 annually from the trust to the university to maintain the professorships.

## GIVES STADIUM

As to William Rand Kenan, Jr., Mr. Howell wrote:

“His contributions to his alma mater, including the Kenan

stadium and recent improvements to it, gifts of books, periodicals, and money to the library of the Department of Chemistry, and one of \$10,000 in 1942 to the University Press have reached a total of nearly \$470,000."

Two other daughters of William Rand Kenan, Sr.—Mrs. Graham Kenan and Mrs. Jessie Kenan Wise—also have been generous with the University.

Mrs. Graham Kenan, in 1920 and 1930, gave a total endowment of \$50,000 for the Kenan Fellowship in Philosophy and for "the prosecution of its (the University's) Southern Historical Collection."

In 1932, Mrs. Wise was one of the first to respond to President Frank Graham's distress call to help deserving students and gave \$25,000 to the Emergency Student Loan Fund.

Those are the larger Kenan gifts. There have been others from other members of the old family.

Mr. Howell did an excellent piece of work on "The Kenan Professorships." But he, naturally, was limited to only larger parts of the Kenan story.

What is needed is a book, beginning with James Kenan at the cornerstone ceremony for Old East and including in minute detail every Kenan through today. Such a volume should be a marvelous story of the benevolence in higher education of one good American family. That work, we are confident, would support beyond every doubt the statement made in the first sentence in this article.

*(Reprint from THE SUNDAY STAR-NEWS, Wilmington, N. C., March 25, 1956)*

## **"ALONG THE CAPE FEAR"**

Visitors—Among the distinguished visitors in our city over the Christmas holidays was William Rand Kenan, who gave the money to build the Kenan Memorial Stadium at the University of North Carolina. The Kenan family is one of the state's oldest and among the nation's best known in the industrial and commercial, as well as professional fields. Many of the family live in Wilmington, with homes in other states.





Old Students Club, University of North Carolina, Photograph taken at Reunion Luncheon, Carolina Inn, Chapel Hill, June 5, 1955.



1st row

John W. Norwood '98, 3630 Jocelyn St., N. W., Washington 15, D. C.  
F. C. Harding '93, Box 124, Greenville  
R. O. Everett '03, Box 586, Durham  
Dr. M. C. Millender '83, 240 Person Drive, Asheville  
R. L. Uzzell '86, 807 Colonial Avenue, Norfolk, Va.  
W. F. Carr '03, 913 S. Duke Street, Durham  
W. R. Kenan '94, 433 Locust Street, Lockport, N. Y.  
W. D. Carmichael '97, Box 1110, Chapel Hill  
Mrs. Bessie Staley Cheatham '00, 2500 Q St., N. W., Washington 7, D. C.  
A. M. Moore '98, Graham  
Louis Graves '02, Box 271, Chapel Hill  
Marshall C. Staton '04, Tarboro

2nd row

Mrs. R. O. E. Davis (Birdie Pritchard) '02, Box 1110, Chapel Hill  
J. S. Holmes '90, 302 E. Forest Road, Raleigh  
Dr. Thad A. Cheatham '00, Pinehurst  
Dr. William P. Jacobs '04, Box 1110, Chapel Hill  
J. Martin Fleming '91, 1218 Glenwood Ave., Raleigh  
V. J. A. Idol '04, 115 W. Washington St., High Point  
A. M. Noble '04, Box 485, Smithfield  
J. S. Newton '04, c/o Clerk Superior Court, Fayetteville  
D. P. Dellinger '00, Box 645, Cherryville

3rd row

Dr. John A. Farrell '02, Box 1880, Raleigh  
Louis Goodman '02, Box 225, Wilmington  
Dr. J. W. Willcox '03, Carthage  
Hiram B. Worth '95, 713 Church Street, Greensboro  
B. I. Tart '03, Four Oaks  
Dr. L. R. Wilson '99, 607 E. Rosemary St., Chapel Hill  
W. S. Crawford '99, 106 Carr Street, Chapel Hill  
Fred J. Coxe '99, 207 S. Greene St., Wadesboro  
Eugene F. Hartley '99, Puntogeague, Va.  
George E. Petty '94, 515 Jefferson Street, Greensboro  
M. W. Nash '00, 1014 Ferndale Drive, High Point  
H. M. Robins '02, 117 S. Main Street, Asheboro

4th row

General Albert L. Cox '04, 821 15th St., N. W., Washington 5, D. C.  
Harold Whitehurst '03, Box 643, New Bern  
Dr. Joseph L. DeCormis '00, Accomac, Va.  
P. D. Gold '98, 8371—16th Street, Silver Spring, Md.  
R. C. Holton '04, Route 1, Box 608, New Bern  
T. F. Hickerson '04, 108 Battle Lane, Chapel Hill  
Phillips Russell '04, Chapel Hill  
Henry H. Reynolds '00, Box 207, Greensboro  
Sam E. Clark '00, 717 S. Tarboro St., Wilson  
Dr. N. D. Bitting '03, 405 Trust Bldg., Durham  
Floyd Uzzell '03, 405 E. Walnut Street, Goldsboro

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In addition to members of Old Students Club in photograph, others who attended Commencement but not present for picture included: *Thomas Ruffin* '95, 106 Pickard Lane, Chapel Hill; *Dr. W. M. Dey* '00, Box 108, Chapel Hill; *Charles E. Johnson* '03, Box 470, Raleigh; *Wade H. Phillips* '04, Box 493, Lexington.

Cape Fear is always happy to welcome back the native sons who have achieved success, but who have never forgotten Southeastern North Carolina.

*(Reprint from Wilmington, N. C., MORNING STAR, January 1st, 1958)*

## FLORIDA EAST COAST HOTEL COMPANY HEAD BREAKERS' VISITOR

The Breakers welcomed on Wednesday for his first visit in two years the president of the Florida East Coast Hotel Co., William R. Kenan Jr., who spent a day here, returning on Thursday to the Ponce de Leon at St. Augustine.

Here also were Mr. and Mrs. A. R. McMannis, he being vice-president and treasurer of the Hotel Company, for a brief stay.

Mr. Kenan joined Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Wannop for cocktails and dinner, after which he visited with several old acquaintances. He was delighted to find The Breakers in the midst of such a delightful Spring season.

*(Reprint from PALM BEACH DAILY NEWS, Palm Beach, Fla., Friday, March 23, 1956)*

## WHERE LIFE GLOWS WITH OLD CHARM

By NANCY CAMPBELL

The great-grandfather of Florida's proliferating resort hotels will re-open its ponderous iron gates Dec. 20 to usher in the first guests of its 70th season in a manner traditional since Victorian days.

Ruby red lights flashing out over the city from the towers of the historic Ponce de Leon Hotel in St. Augustine, Friday, will indicate both the official beginning of the city's social season and the opening of a hotel which has remained an elite haven for Florida travelers for almost three quarters of a century.

Social life in the oldest city in the United States has, for many decades, revolved around this dream hotel which was



visualized and built by Henry Morrison Flagler, pioneer developer of Florida's east coast.

Most instrumental in preserving the longevity of Flagler tradition is William Rand Kenan Jr., the fabled Lockport industrialist, brother-in-law of Mr. Flagler, and president of the Flagler East Coast Hotel chain. He cherishes his special suite of rooms, overlooking a sparkling fountain in the courtyard where Spanish fruit trees and palms have been nurtured through the years.

Coming to St. Augustine in 1883, Mr. Flagler was so charmed by the climate and beauty of the city and impressed by its possibilities as a resort that he almost at once started plans for the architectural masterpiece as a part of an effort to transform St. Augustine into an "American Riviera."

This was a time when other parts of the state were jungles, and few railroad tracks had penetrated the great wilderness which in later years brought wealth and pleasant living to so many Floridians.

The edifice, built in the style of the Spanish Renaissance, still provides luxurious suites and rooms, complete with their original opulent furnishings, for its clientele who come from all over the United States and Europe to bask in the Florida sun and enjoy the spectacular spaciousness of a hotel covering six acres.

This prince of hotels, with its 250 bedrooms, has housed presidents and noblemen, artists and musicians, and many of New England's oldest families. It stands exactly as it was built in 1887, with its towers peering over the Atlantic. Nothing in the ensuing three score and ten has been altered within its massive interior, from the muraled ceilings to the gleaming marble on the street floor.

Preserved along with the original Victorian tables, beds, chairs and other costly furnishings, are the historical paintings and portraits purchased by the fabulous Mr. Flagler, one of the founders of the Standard Oil Company, and who has been called "the biggest thing that happened to Florida since Ponce de Leon."

Except for their appearance, guests really haven't changed much either. They pretty much prefer the same atmosphere, the same entertainment and the same food their grandparents did. They feel that the Ponce is geared to their mode of living, and keep coming back year after year.

Such famous names as Lowell Thomas and Sir Thomas Beecham have been secretly registered many times at the Ponce, which is considered by many as more of a retreat than a resort hotel. It is also a favorite vacation spot for John L. Lewis.

The very first guests arrived at the Ponce via the "Florida Special," a train routed from New York City to St. Augustine in a 28-hour trip especially arranged for the opening of the hotel destined to become the hallmark of hospitality in one of the fastest growing states in the country. In those days, St. Augustine was the end of the line for the East Coast by rail. Other travel was by boat on inland waterways or by liner.

Built over tons of white sand used to fill in the Maria Sanchez Creek bed, the palatial dwelling was acclaimed by the newspapers of the day as "the finest hotel in the world" and valued at what then was the breath-taking sum of \$2,500,000.

Those were the days when it took only 300 million dollars a year to operate the federal government and the U. S. deficit stood at a mere two billion dollars.

Big numbers come naturally in talking about the Ponce. For instance, to make the walls, coquina was brought from Anastasia Island. Mixed with cement, it was poured into forms for the walls. Eleven hundred Negroes, with song leaders to pace them, tamped the mixture to insure its solidity as the great walls rose in one piece, solid except for a course of bricks laid at five-foot intervals.

O. D. Seavey, first manager of the Ponce, reported that "from 100 to 300 visitors have been turned away almost every day during the present season." As the sand streets of the city were asphalted and the smoky old buildings were brushed clean, smaller hotels began dotting the horizon.

In fact, before the Ponce itself was completed, Mr. Flagler began construction of the Alcazar Hotel (now Lightner Museum of Hobbies) and he purchased and completed a third hotel across the street, the Casa Monica, which later was renamed the Cordova.

As it stands today the old edifice is priceless, in the opinion of its present manager, E. G. Flather Jr. Many of its expensive trimmings could not be replaced either in workmanship or in materials.

Despite the fact that hotel clientele have abandoned bustles, high silk hats, fans and watch fobs of yesteryear, the Ponce de Leon itself retains its unique old world atmosphere right down to the last impeccable bell hop.

Just as many celebrities have passed unnoticed among the hand-carved pillars, and ornate furnishings of the Ponce, many an opera star, singing from one of the balconies overlooking the ballroom, has been applauded.

Only once during its 70 years was the hotel opened out of season. On the occasion, Mr. Flagler, himself, made the exception and welcomed President Theodore (Teddy) Roosevelt one October when he was riding through St. Augustine.

Diners may have exchanged their rustling silk skirts and scissor-tailed dinner jackets for cotton sheaths and business suits, but with appetites whetted by salty air they still select the standard favorites of the old days—prime beef, sugar cured ham and roast turkey. They choose from an extensive menu planned by Carl Bucknel, master chef at the hotel for 20 years, who comes from Bavaria and brooks no nonsense where good food is concerned.

While a swimming pool was installed within the iron walls of the Ponce, and bathing suits are frequently spotted in hotel corridors, nowadays golf, the top favorite of turn of the century hotel guests, is still the preferred sport, according to Mr. Flather, hotel manager, Ponce de Leon Golf Club manager, and manager-to-be of the new Ponce de Leon Motor Lodge going up just outside the city gates.

Mr. Flather also notes that hotel patrons don't dress for-



mally for dinner much anymore, and when they do it's usually an occasion, like New Year's Eve, a birthday, or some other special event.

The European plan is now preferred by most folks over the American way because, as Mr. Flather puts it, "People, nowadays, like to come and go as they please, and don't want to be tied down to a dinner schedule."

In the beginning, however, patrons of the Ponce were more formal with their notions, and accepted the American plan as the only way.

A tradition as old as the inn itself is the New Year's Eve Ball which attracts New Yorkers and Floridians alike, and because of its popularity, reservations are often made a year in advance.

The Ponce, which offers a romantic and colorful setting for many social functions in St. Augustine, likewise, has much appeal to Jacksonville residents who go there on week end retreats.

One hundred and eighty men and women are employed by the hotel each year to serve guests and render services in the suave manner that pleased empire-building Flagler in his day.

The massive structure of grey shell concrete has remained the winter home of many out-of-staters for these seven decades, and, other than a few minor additions and a face lifting with fresh wallpaper and varnish now and then, the appearance and hospitality format of the hotel have remained basically unchanged.

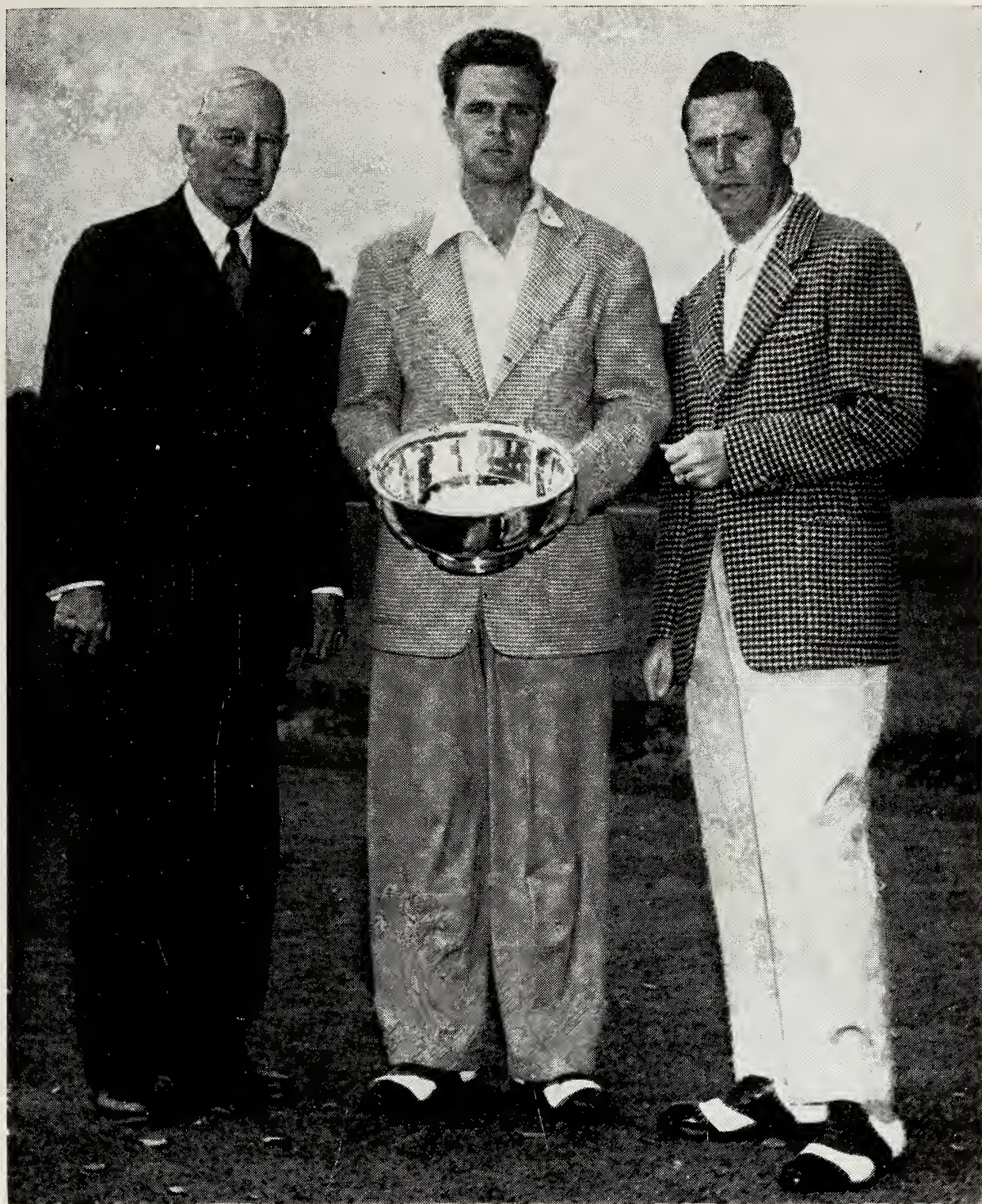
And to tell the truth, folks in St. Augustine can't see any reason for changes. They like their Ponce just like it is.

*(Reprint from THE FLORIDA TIMES-UNION, December 15, 1957)*

### **FLAGLER WOULD FORGIVE SON ANYTHING BUT BEING A DUDE**

The following article clipped from the Savannah News some 70 years ago shows that the Victorian equivalent of today's "cats" were held in no higher esteem than the extreme dressers of today.





Wm. R. Kenan, Jr.

Harvie Ward

Carroll Boggs

St. Augustine Links

St. Augustine, Florida,

February 19, 1949



## "MR. FLAGLER'S HOSTILITY TO DUDES"

"Mr. Henry M. Flagler, the millionaire proprietor of the Ponce de Leon, is not an admirer of dudes. In fact, it is well understood by those who have heard him express his opinion of the silly young men whose chief aim in life appears to be to attract attention to themselves by their extravagant clothes, that he has more respect for a donkey than a dude.

"Mr. Flagler likes to see a man well dressed. He is very careful of his own dress, but he dresses like a gentleman. His clothes are of good material, and are cut and made in the best style, but he wears nothing that is flashy or calculated to attract attention. Being a man of fine, and even handsome face, his neat and becoming clothes, together with a rather striking figure, assist him in making a favorable impression upon those with whom he comes in contact. His appearance is that of a self-poised, clear-headed man of business, and although, owing to the great improvements which he has made at St. Augustine, he has come to be one of the best known private citizens in the country, he doesn't care apparently to be known in any other character.

"In conversation with a number of gentlemen a few days ago, Mr. Flagler said that he had only one son, and that he would forgive him for being almost anything except a dude. He declared he wanted his son to display manly qualities and characteristics, and not those of a dude. One of the gentlemen of the party defended young men who go to extremes in dress, urging that they often acquired tastes during their college days which were abandoned when they became settled in business or a profession, and when contact with the world had ripened their judgments. Mr. Flagler, however, maintained that a genuine dude never changed his character, and as a general thing, never achieved any sort of success in life."

*(Reprint from FLORIDA TIMES-UNION, Sunday, December 15, 1957)*

Three men I talked with at commencement whose vigor at an advanced age impressed me were John Motley Morehead, 86; William R. Kenan, Jr., 84; and P. D. Gold, 80. Mr.



Gold, one of the founders of the Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Company, still has an agency contract with the company. He goes to his office in Washington every day from his suburban home in Maryland. "I was 80 years old in May," he said to me at the Old Students' Club luncheon, "and sold \$81,000 of life insurance in the month." I said to Mr. Kenan: "I remember you told me four or five years ago that you had never been sick a day in your life. How does the health record stand now?" He said it was still unbroken.

*(Reprint from CHAPEL HILL WEEKLY, June 8, 1956)*

## HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

William Rand Kenan Jr., of Lockport, N. Y., one of the University's most loyal alumni and benefactors, was made an honorary member of the University's Phi Beta Kappa chapter at special ceremonies held during his recent visit to Chapel Hill for commencement.

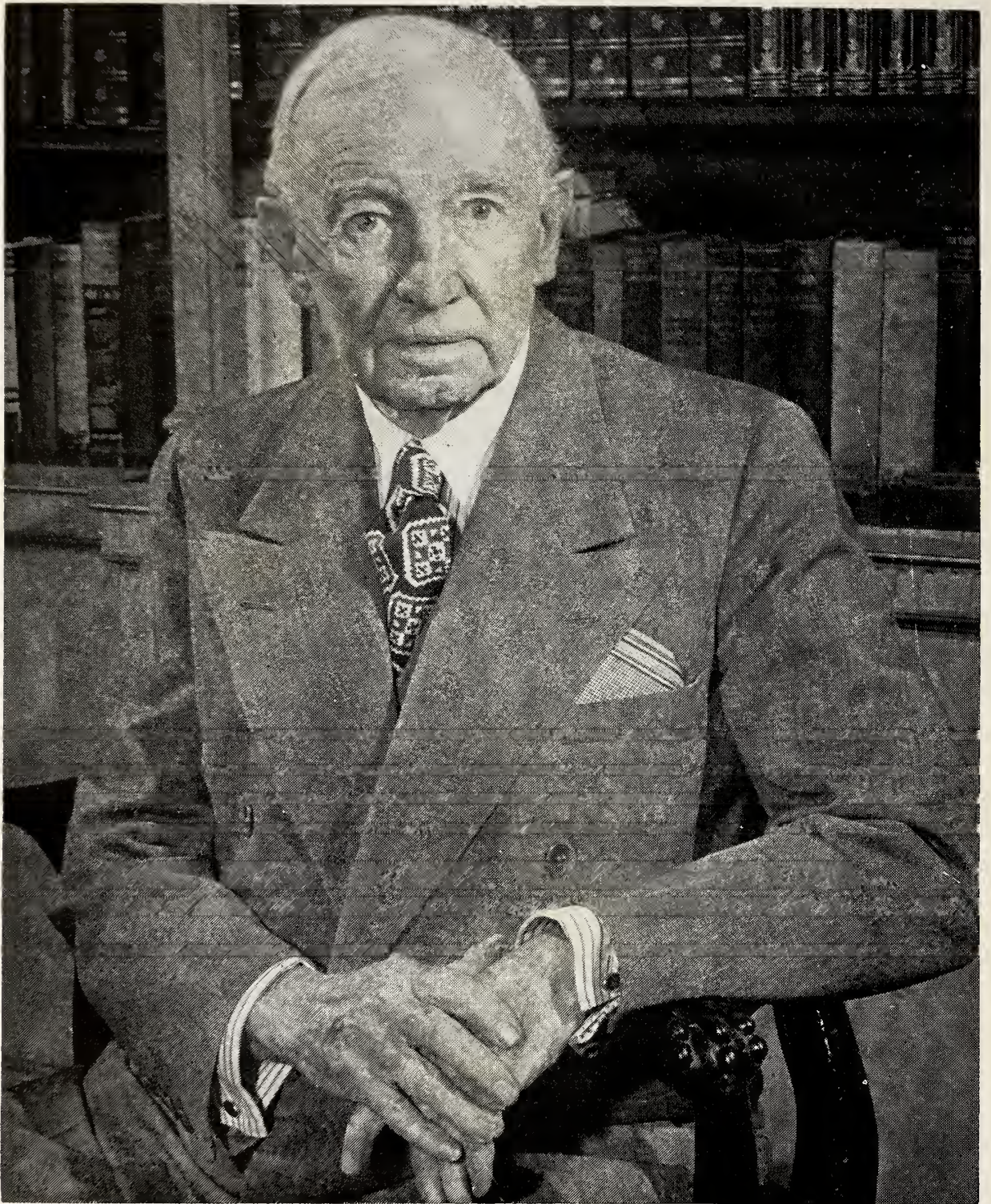
*(Reprint from UNIVERSITY REPORT, July, 1955)*

## MAN OF MANY INTERESTS

Lockport's distinguished citizen, Dr. William R. Kenan, Jr., member of the Board of Directors of The Upson Company, and Dr. Albert P. Sy, professor emeritus of chemistry at the University of Buffalo, were honor guests at the 50th anniversary banquet of the Western New York Section, American Chemical Society.

Dr. Kenan and Dr. Sy, charter members of the section, took part in the cake-cutting ceremony at the 50th anniversary banquet in Kleinhans Music Hall, Buffalo, along with Dr. John C. Warner, president of the American Chemical Society; Dr. Charles C. Clark, section chairman, and Dr. Raymond W. Hess, section historian and honorary chairman of the anniversary celebration. Dr. Walter P. Ericks, Upson director of research, attended the dinner.





WM. R. KENAN, JR.

Chief benefactor of the YMCA boys' camp he founded in 1925 and which bears his name, Dr. Kenan has been a director of The Upson Company since Aug. 16, 1951. Not only are they associates on our Board of Directors but Dr. Kenan and President James J. Upson also share a common



Theodore C. Reidt, Youth Director of the Lockport YMCA, is director of Camp Kenan's 33rd season July 7 through Aug. 25. Ted's a member of the American Camping Committee, formerly was with the Boston Y's Camp Hun-Da-Ca and the Chicago Y's High Ridge Department. He's a graduate of North Central College, Naperville, Ill., and George Williams College, Chicago.



interest in the boys' camp near Barker, N. Y. Our newly-elected president has been chairman of the Camp Kenan Council and Advisory Committee since 1953.

Camp Kenan opens its 32nd season July 1. Open House dates are June 3, 10 and 17. Prospective campers and their parents will be conducted on tours of the camp area between 2 and 5 P.M. A former camper and counselor, Robert W. Querns will serve as camp director this Summer, assisted by Theodore C. Reidt, who becomes boys' work secretary of the Lockport "Y" June 15. Boys 8 to 14 are eligible and the rates are \$25.50 a week or \$170 for the seven-week season.

Dr. Kenan observed his 84th birthday April 30 and it seems incredible anyone could have attained success in so many



fields as our Upson director—industrialist, philanthropist, financier, inventor, discoverer, businessman, engineer, scientist, chemist, dairy farmer and cattle breeder! To these we add that of author since he has written “Incidents by the Way,” three volumes of personal recollections and “History of Randleigh Farm.”

When asked last year which of his accomplishments and many enterprises gives him the greatest satisfaction, Dr. Kenan promptly referred to the scientific work carried on with his dairy herds of record-making Jerseys at Randleigh Farm on Chestnut Ridge Road. Carlton L. West, herdsman of Randleigh Farm, is the father of C. Richard West of the Upson Sales Promotion Department.

Dr. Kenan first published his “History of Randleigh Farm” in 1937 and it has been brought up to date for numerous subsequent editions. Experiments conducted there are of immense interest to dairymen, breeders, laboratories and drug companies, particularly the work along nutritional lines and the use of antibiotics. Sulfa drugs were used there long before being given to humans.

His interests are multifold. He is an officer or director in scores of companies and corporations and devotes a great deal of his time to such activities as he is exceedingly conscientious in attending to business details. He sits regularly with the Upson Board of Directors when not wintering at Hotel Ponce de Leon, St. Augustine, Fla.

President of both the Western Block Company, Lockport, and the Flagler Hotel System, Florida, Dr. Kenan also is a director of the Florida Power & Light Company and chairman of the Advisory Board of the Niagara County Bank Offices, Marine Trust Company of Western New York.

Dr. Kenan is a native of Wilmington, N. C., received his B.S. degree from the University of North Carolina in 1890 and was awarded the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from his alma mater at his 50th anniversary class reunion at Chapel Hill in 1944. To do justice to his career would require a biographical tome of considerable proportions but

we would like to quote this foreword from his first volume of memoirs which possibly summarizes his philosophy of life:

“Ambition is a stimulating little quality that prompts one to want any thing they haven’t so far been able to possess. No one, perhaps, ever reaches his goal, but that is not failure. Real success comes with the steady pursuit of what you are trying to accomplish.”

## **GIFTS FROM LOCAL PEOPLE HAVE FIGURED PROMINENTLY IN HISTORY OF UNIVERSITY**

Is your name Jones, Morgan, Daniel, Craig, Barbee, McCauley or Connelly? If you can claim descent from any of these families, your ancestor may have been one of the donors of the original site of the University of North Carolina.

Through the years Orange County residents have aided the growth and development of the University. Perhaps the biggest contribution from this community to UNC came in 1792 when twelve residents of Chapel Hill and its vicinity offered to the University trustees tracts of land ranging from five to 221 acres on condition that the University be established in Chapel Hill.

The largest of these tracts was the donation of Christopher Barbee, one of the biggest landowners in Orange County. Other donors in this local area who gave lands for the original site were Ben Yeargin, Edmund Jones, Mark Morgan, John Daniel, James Craig, Harry Morgan, William McCauley, Matthew McCauley, Alexander Piper, and Thomas Connelly. To these men who saw fit to encourage the establishment of the University on its present site by their generous gifts, the University will always owe a debt of gratitude.

The shadow of a man—James Hogg, a resident of Hillsboro—falls across the picture of committee meetings and planning sessions before the decision was made to locate the University in Chapel Hill. Hogg persuaded those friends he knew in Orange County to make generous offers of land and money and he convinced the committee selecting the site that Chapel Hill was the ideal location.

Archibald Henderson in his book, "The Campus of the First State University," wrote, "Credit for the location is attributable both to the generosity of the donors, and to the shrewdness, assiduity, and indefatigable labors of James Hogg in personally soliciting the gifts."

The gifts totaled 1,386 acres of land (840 of which lay on or adjoined Chapel Hill, the remainder within four or five miles) and 798 pounds.

Largely through Hogg's efforts, the commissioners to the trustees unanimously recommended Chapel Hill as the seat of the University in December, 1792. Hogg remained a loyal friend to the University and served for 13 years as a member of the Board of Trustees from 1789-1802.

A descendant of an original donor of the University, Mary Elizabeth Morgan Mason, great-granddaughter of Mark Morgan, bequeathed to the University in 1894 an 800-acre plantation now known as the Mason Farm. The University was fortunate that Mrs. Mason saw fit to give to the University those lands which had belonged to her great-grandfather and which had been passed on to her.

A large part of Mason Farm, an area well-known to local citizens, is cultivated land used in co-operation with the U. S. Soil Conservation Service. In recent years some of the land has been converted into Finley golf course, owned and operated by the University.

The name Kenan is almost a by-word in the University community, but not many people know that the Kenans are directly connected with the vicinity of Orange County. William Rand Kenan married Christopher Barbee's great-great-granddaughter; his great-great-grandfather on the paternal side was James Kenan, one of the members of the first U.N.C. Board of Trustees. So it is that all contributions from the Kenan family stem from their ancestors who were Orange County residents and friends of the University.

William Rand Kenan Jr., gave \$275,000 for the erection of a stadium as a memorial to his parents; the dedication ceremony of the stadium took place November 24, 1927. Soon



afterwards a supplementary gift of \$28,000 came from Kenan for an adequate field house. Within recent years Mr. Kenan has given about \$280,000 for rebuilding the guest box and press box at the stadium and also additional funds for the enlargement of the field house and the addition of bleachers.

Mary Lily Flagler Bingham, sister of William R. Kenan Jr., in 1917 bequeathed a fund which would yield \$75,000 annually for the employment of distinguished professors; the fund was named in memory of Mrs. Bingham's father and her uncles James G. Kenan and Thomas S. Kenan.

In 1906 the daughter of William Rand Kenan Sr., also gave \$25,000 to the University Library to be used in building up a collection of material bearing on the South in the Civil War; this is known as the Kenan Fund for Southern History in memory of her father.

Two other daughters of William R. Kenan Sr., Mrs. James Graham Kenan and Mrs. Jessie Kenan Wise, added to the list of contributions from the family to the University. Thus the ancestry of Kenan Stadium, the Kenan Endowment Fund for Professors and notable contributions stem back to Christopher Barbee's donation in 1792 which amounted to about one-fifth of the land given for the UNC campus.

Why was College Avenue renamed Cameron Avenue? A look at the services rendered the University by Paul Cameron will explain the change. The restoration of the campus and buildings around 1875 was brought about.

For the benefit of University students he aided in the construction of Memorial Hall and for the beauty of the campus he presented a number of maple trees which were planted along the avenue which now bears his name.

The story is told how the University in those lean years could not meet some claims for money lent to the University. The lands which were to be sold to settle the claim consisted of about 250 acres. Cameron after urging from Mrs. Cornelia Phillips Spencer agreed to buy the lands and therefore keep them intact. Battle Park, Piney Prospect and many of the

sites of homes in the eastern part of Chapel Hill are on these lands now.

The daughter of Cameron, Mildred Cameron Shepherd, gave to the University \$5,000 for an endowment to the library which is known as the Cameron Fund.

Mrs. Cornelia Phillips Spencer gave to the University things more valuable than land or money; she gave of herself.

The story will always be told of Mrs. Spencer's mounting the stairs to the attic of South Building to ring the bell announcing the dawn of the University's re-birth after the State Legislature had provided funds for its re-opening.

She wrote countless articles in newspapers and letters to influential citizens in North Carolina which ultimately led to the University's re-opening. A woman's dormitory on the UNC campus bears her name in recognition of her services.

Another Chapel Hill native who gave generously to the University was Isaac Emerson, one of the first students to enroll in the University when it re-opened after the Civil War. Although he moved in his later years to Baltimore where he amassed a fortune as the "Bromo Seltzer King," he never forgot his alma mater.

Emerson gave \$25,000 to cover the cost of construction of an athletic field which was completed in 1916. The field, now used for baseball, is called Emerson Field. He also gave \$5,000 to the library.

Another memorial was established at UNC to honor this Chapel Hill boy who worked his way through college and who later gained national fame and fortune. The fund known as the Isaac E. Emerson Memorial Fund, was established in the N. C. Pharmaceutical Research Foundation by a gift of 1,000 shares of stock in the Emerson Drug Company of Baltimore organized under Emerson's leadership in 1891.

This fund has been used for promoting pharmaceutical education and research at UNC through research fellowships, special supplies, and library materials. It was given by F. Jackson Andrews, a native of Durham and a resident of Baltimore, in memory of Emerson.

The University is indebted to still another woman, Mary Ruffin Smith, who was the daughter of Dr. James Smith, a physician of Hillsboro. Through a bequest from Miss Smith the University was able to install its first power plant.

Miss Smith died in 1885 leaving to the University a piece of land known as the "Jones Grove" tract which is eight miles from Chapel Hill and was worth about \$18,000. The fund arising from the sale of this property was to be known as "The Francis Jones Smith Bequest," named for Miss Smith's brother, and was to be used for the education of such students at the University as the faculty should designate.

A part of this fund was used for the construction of the first power plant. It is interesting to note that William Rand Kenan Jr., was sent to Chapel Hill to supervise the installation of the electric plant in 1895. The heating system was installed in 1901 at a cost of \$27,500. Probably no money given to the University was better appropriated than that of Miss Smith's which dispersed the blackness of the hallways and eliminated the open fireplaces and inefficient stoves.

A smaller amount of money from the Francis Jones Smith Fund was used for enlarging the electric plant and this additional space provided the first home of the University Press.

A man who has witnessed many of the University improvements and who has served the University in many capacities is Dr. Louis Round Wilson, for whom its library is named.

About the contributions of others, Dr. Wilson comments, "The significant role played by these men and women in bringing distinction to the University cannot be over-emphasized. They gave the land which became its home. Through their gifts of land and buildings, of books and apparatus, of fellowships and professorships 'The Lord has wrought great glory' and 'Their name liveth ever more.' "

It is impossible to mention all the gifts from local people to the University; but in view of the large contributions from Chapel Hill natives and residents which have been mentioned, it seems fitting that the Chapel Hill Board of Aldermen, the Board of County Commissioners, and the Carrboro Board of



Commissioners were issued special invitations to attend the installation of William B. Aycock as the new Chancellor of the University. Without the help of local people the University would not be what it is today.

(Reprint from *CHAPEL HILL WEEKLY*, Chapel Hill, N. C., Nov. 8, 1957)

### CITED FOR INDUSTRY

William Rand Kenan, Jr., N.C. Xi '94 (North Carolina), of Lockport, N. Y., was one of 12 leaders in various fields to receive citations for distinguished contributions to business and community life from the University of Buffalo. The citations were presented in connection with ceremonies marking the dedication of the Tower Dormitory as a part of Education Day activities of the World Port Celebration in September. Mr. Kenan, a Founder of the National Endowment Fund of SAE and long-time benefactor of the Leadership School, was cited for industrial civic affairs. The citation read in part: "His career symbolizes the spirit of America. From young manhood, when he assisted in the laboratory discovery of calcium carbide, which has revolutionized industrial processes, he has been a creative builder. He has contributed his constructive talents to many enterprises in the fields of chemistry, power, railways, finance and scientific farming. He has traveled the globe and his native land to create industry through chemistry and electricity. He has made a vast contribution to the growth of the Niagara Frontier and to a large section of the State of Florida . . ." Mr. Kenan was featured in the *Buffalo Evening News*, October 5, 1957, with the headlines, "Fabled Lockport Millionaire Still Works Hard at 85." Beneath his photograph were the lines: "William Rand Kenan, Jr., 85, and a millionaire, but he's at work every morning at 7 o'clock."

(Reprint from *THE S. A. E. RECORD*, November, 1957, Vol. 77, Number 4)

THE UNIVERSITY OF BUFFALO  
CITATION

Awarded to

WILLIAM RAND KENAN, JR.

In recognition of outstanding ability and distinguished accomplishment in the field of industrial and civic affairs

Dated this 30th day of September, 1957

At Buffalo, New York

Seymour H. Knox (SEAL)  
Chairman of the Council

C. C. Furnas  
Chancellor

The University of Buffalo  
Buffalo, New York

Office of  
Chairman of the Council

September 30, 1957

WILLIAM RAND KENAN, JR.

CHEMIST \* INDUSTRIALIST \* CIVIC LEADER

His career symbolizes the spirit of America. From young manhood, when he assisted in the laboratory discovery of calcium carbide, which has revolutionized industrial processes, he has been a creative builder.

He has traveled the globe and his native land to create industry through chemistry and electricity. He has made a vast contribution to the growth of the Niagara Frontier, and to a large section of the State of Florida. In addition, he has found the time to devote to civic affairs. His concern for the welfare of young people has been manifested through his contributions to facilities for camping and university athletic activities.

The University of Buffalo bestows this citation upon William Rand Kenan for his distinguished contributions to the progress and welfare of America, and for his devotion to the fundamental humanities.



## CITATION OF HONOR

WILLIAM RAND KENAN, Jr.: Distinguished scientist, especially in the field of Chemistry, famous for his discovery, with Dr. Francis P. Venable, of calcium carbide, noted engineer and pioneer builder who worked with Henry M. Flagler in constructing the Florida East Coast Railway and the chain of large hotels connected with it, thus opening for development the entire east coast of Florida as the nation's playground; banker, industrialist, railroad president and proprietor of Randleigh Farm at his home in Lockport, New York, where he is specializing in research on grasses and raising fine jersey cattle; born in North Carolina in 1873 and a member of a family noted for its benefactions to the University and the State; graduate of the University in the Class of 1894 and honored by his alma mater with the degree of LL.D. in 1944; an effective member during his student days of the football and baseball teams, winning letters in both sports, and donor of Kenan Stadium at the University, completed in 1927 as a memorial to his father and mother; builder and operator of the University's original electric light plant in 1895; long a developer of the Library of the Department of Chemistry through subscriptions to scientific journals and funds for books; author of *Incidents by the Way*, a volume of Kenan recollections, and of *History of Randleigh Farm* now in its 7th edition; sustaining member of the Friends of the Library since 1949, made life member in 1952, Vice-Chairman of the organization in 1950-52.

MR. KENAN: In recognition of your life-long devotion to your alma mater, the University of North Carolina, for your sustained interest in the development of its Department of Chemistry Library and the support you have given toward making this library an adequate instrument of service for the maintenance of the Department's program of instruction and research, for your encouragement of and participation

in the work of the Friends of the Library, we salute you with this testimony of our appreciation and esteem.

THE FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Louis R. Wilson, Chairman

Andrew H. Horn, Secretary

Chapel Hill

May 13, 1955

CITATION GIVEN ME BY  
THE UNIVERSITY OF BUFFALO

I received an engraved invitation to attend the showing of all the buildings on the campus which I accepted by letter and the day before I was to go I received a letter from the Secretary advising me they had appointed Professor Claude E. Puffer, Treasurer, to take me around the campus and show me the different buildings, also requesting that I be at the new dormitory building at 9:30 in the morning.

I was there exactly on time and in the lobby of the building met Professor Puffer. I was taken first over to the Grand Stand where the Governor of New York State, Averell Harriman, gave a very interesting talk. Then we went to see the new buildings.

At luncheon time the Professor's wife came and brought their motor car and said that, after lunch, they would be happy to ride me around the property. Dr. Puffer told me I was to sit at the Speaker's Table, which contained Governor Harriman, Bishop Lauriston L. Scaife, Seymour H. Knox and myself. After lunch there were several interesting speeches made and the citations were then presented.

I had never been on the property and I had never met, direct or indirectly, an individual connected with the University, and I was tremendously amazed that they gave so much attention to me and was so extremely courteous. The citation was presented by Dr. Clifford C. Furnas, Chancellor of the University of Buffalo.



Their courtesy was outstanding and much more than I had any thought of obtaining.

## POWER PIONEER WARMS UP GENERATOR

By STEPHEN FLYNN

*Herald Staff Writer*

The builder of Miami's first major power plant took an active part Monday in the warmup of the largest electric generator in the state's history, at the Cutler plant of Florida Power & Light Co.

On hand as the giant, 140,000 kilowatt generator went through its paces was William Rand Kenan, Jr., 83, of St. Augustine and Lockport, N. Y. A director of FP&L and a long-time associate of the late Henry M. Flagler, Kenan built Miami's first electric plant in 1904.

The new generator, with its 14-story boiler, is a far cry from the 200-kilowatt wood-burning plant which was hailed as a modern marvel only half a century ago.

By itself, it can take care of the electrical needs of 420,000 people.

It boosts Cutler's total to 380,000 kilowatts—more than the entire FP&L system could produce only six years ago.

The unit is a major accomplishment of FP&L's 10-year, \$410,000,000 expansion program begun in 1951, Board Chairman McGregor Smith said.

On the other hand, Kenan recalled that at the turn of the century, local electric power was supplied to a few customers from the generator of the Royal Palm Hotel, located on Biscayne Bay and the Miami River.

Then, in 1904, Kenan blueprinted and built Miami's first major electric plant. Owned by the Flagler interests, it was located along with a water works, west of the Florida East Coast Railway along the riverside.

That first "big" plant, Kenan recalls, has two belt-driven steam units, of 250 horsepower each, imported from Nassau.

Cutler's new generator, "warmed up" by Kenan, Monday,

will be connected to the FP&L statewide system by a new 138,000 volt line.

Smith said FP&L capacity has stepped up 320 per cent since VJ-Day. The national average of power growth was only 105 per cent at the end of 1954.

Expansion by FP&L since VJ-Day include new plants at Sarasota and Riviera, near West Palm Beach, plus major enlargements to plants at Sanford, Miami and Palatka. And Cutler has been built entirely since 1947.

Next to go "on the line" is an 80,000 kilowatt addition to generating facilities at Palatka, to meet growing North Florida demand. Target date is mid-1956.

FP&L engineers, Smith said, are now studying population and other trends. Their surveys will determine location of two more big generators, slated for operation by the winter of 1958.

*(Reprint from MIAMI HERALD, August 16, 1955)*

## KENAN PUTS HUGE GENERATOR INTO OPERATION

William R. Kenan Jr. of Lockport today turned on the biggest single electrical generator ever to be put into operation in Florida. The 140,000-kilowatt unit is located at the Cutler Plant of the Florida Power and Light Company, near Miami.

Mr. Kenan, a director of Florida Power and Light, headed the firm, then called the Miami Electric Light and Power Company, from 1913 to 1924.

Great strides taken by the power industry in recent years, he said in a speech marking the dedication of the new generator, could not have been duplicated with government-controlled power. Florida Power and Light, for instance, has increased its facilities 320 per cent since 1945, Mr. Kenan declared, compared with a national average increase of 125 per cent.

Internationally known for his accomplishments in the fields of science and industry, Mr. Kenan has been identified with development of power in south Florida since the turn of the century. He designed and built Miami's first major power





Board of Directors, Florida Power & Light Co.



plant in Miami in 1904. It was a wood burning 200 kilowatt affair. The unit he started today operates on fuel oil.

At one time president of seven firms in the extensive Flagler interests, including the Florida East Coast Railway, Mr. Kenan has also been closely identified with Lockport industries and banks, his past or present connections including president of Western Block Company, director of the Upson Company, chairman of the Advisory Board of the Marine Trust Company of Western New York, owner and operator of the old Lockport Pulp Company and general manager early in the 1900's of the Traders Paper Division, United Boxboard and Paper Company.

*(Reprint from UNION-SUN, August 16, 1955)*

### WM. R. KENAN, JR., TAKES PART IN POWER DEDICATION

MIAMI, Fla., Aug. 16 (AP)—Florida Power & Light Co.'s giant 140,000 kilowatt electric power generator—largest ever installed in the state—was warmed up yesterday with formal ceremonies at suburban Cutler.

Taking part in the dedication was William Rand Kenan Jr., 83-year-old veteran of the era of empire builders, who built the first 200 kilowatt plant in Miami in 1904.

The new generator weighs more than 577 tons and can serve a community of 420,000 persons. It raises Cutler's total capability to 380,000 kilowatts—more than the entire system could generate in 1949.

At the dedication Kenan recalled some of the early years and events connected with the electric light and power company plant he built along the Miami River 51 years ago.

Among Kenan's electrical planning and construction were such projects as the Breakers in Palm Beach and Continental in Atlantic Beach and enlarged plants at the Royal Poinciana at Palm Beach and Royal Palm at Miami.

After Henry M. Flagler died, Kenan became president of the Florida East Coast Railway, Florida East Coast Hotel



Co., the Model, Perrine Grant and Chuluota Land Co., all of St. Augustine; the West Palm Beach Water Co., and other firms.

Kenan maintains residence at Lockport, N. Y., and St. Augustine.

*(Reprint from MIAMI DAILY NEWS, August 16, 1955)*

## HUGE CUTLER PLANT IS ACTIVATED BY FPL

Florida Power & Light Co.'s giant 140,000 kilowatt electric power generator—largest ever installed in the state—was in operation today after formal ceremonies at suburban Cutler.

Taking part in the dedication was William Rand Kenan Jr., 83-year-old veteran of the era of empire builders, who built the first 200-kilowatt plant in Miami in 1904.

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## SERVED AS FEC HEAD

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After Henry M. Flagler died, Kenan became president of the Florida East Coast Railway, Florida East Coast Hotel Co., The Model, Perrine Grant and Chuluota Land Co., all of St. Augustine; the West Palm Beach Water Co., and other firms.

Kenan maintains homes at Lockport, N. Y., and St. Augustine.

## DAYTONAN IS ELECTED

Meanwhile, the company announced that Alan B. Wright of Daytona Beach, regional manager of the Florida Power

& Light Co., has been elected vice-president at the board of directors quarterly meeting.

Wright, 55, joined Florida Power & Light Co. in 1931 as a power salesman, later served as division sales manager and manager of the northern division.

He is a native of Winston-Salem, N. C., and received his electrical engineering degree at the University of North Carolina.

Wright will continue to make his home in Daytona Beach.

*(Reprint from MIAMI DAILY NEWS, Tuesday, August 16, 1955)*

## LOCKPORT MAN STARTS WHEEL OF HUGE FLORIDA GENERATOR

William R. Kenan, Jr., 83, Top Flagler Aide,  
Cites Strides by Private Power Industry

MIAMI, April 16.—A Lockport, N. Y., man who has devoted a major portion of a long career to private power development and operation today turned on the biggest single generator in Florida.

William Rand Kenan Jr., 83, of 433 Locust St. turned the control wheel to set in motion a 140,000-kilowatt generator at Florida Power & Light Co.'s Cutler plant near Miami.

The new generator, capable of supplying the electrical needs of a community of 420,000 population, is a far cry from Mr. Kenan's earlier electric power plants.

He is now a Florida Power & Light director. He has been active in development of South Florida power since the turn of the century, when he was engineering consultant and top advisor to the late Henry M. Flagler. Mr. Flagler came here to build grandiose hotels and the Florida East Coast Railway, which Mr. Kenan once headed.

## ACTIVE IN WNY CONCERNS

Mr. Kenan recalled that Miami's first electric generator was powered with a few cords of wood. Another early South Florida unit, which was gasoline-powered, was so puny that



street lights were turned off on nights when the tropical moon was full and bright.

Mr. Kenan came to Western New York in 1896 to take charge of a shift in the Niagara Falls plant of Carbide Manufacturing Co., a forerunner of Union Carbide & Carbon Corporation. He recalls that he was in charge of the laboratories and put in a ten-hour day seven days a week.

He went to Lockport in 1900, and became general manager of the old Traders Paper Co., later to become part of United Boxboard & Paper Co.

It was about this time when he became associated with Mr. Flagler and participated in such Flagler projects as huge land purchases, construction of hotels and buildings of the Florida East Coast Railway's spectacular over-water line to Key West.

#### HEADED 7 FIRMS AT ONE TIME

Later, Mr. Kenan was president of seven Flagler firms at one time, including the railroad, land companies, hotel operations and a car-ferry firm.

His Western New York positions have included top executive or director posts with Western Block Co. and the Niagara County Bank & Trust Co.

In his dedication speech at Cutler, Mr. Kenan said that the great strides in the power industry could not have been duplicated with government-controlled power.

He said Florida Power & Light, for instance, has increased its facilities 320% since 1945, compared with a national average of 125%.

*(Reprint from BUFFALO NEWS, August 16, 1955)*

#### FP&L PUTS GIANT POWER UNIT TO WORK

Utility Pioneer Initiates Largest Generator in Use in Florida

MIAMI, Aug. 15 (AP)—The man who built Miami's first major power plant helped place in service today the largest electric generator ever installed in Florida.

He was William Rand Kenan Jr., now 83, who has been connected with electric utility companies in Florida since 1904 when he installed two steam units that generated 200 kilowatts of power.

Kenan, of St. Augustine and Lockport, N. Y., is now a director of Florida Power and Light Co., which put a giant, 140,000 kilowatt generator through its warmup paces today.

He recalled that Miami's first electricity was generated by a wood burning plant installed in the Royal Palm Hotel. Guests kept supplies of candles in case of "interruptions" and engineers turned off the street lights on nights when the moon was shining brightly.

Florida Power and Light began a 10-year construction program in 1951 that calls for spending of \$410,000,000. It will put a new 80,000-kilowatt generator into operation in Palatka next year.

Two more generators are under consideration, their location to be determined by studies of population and other trends, and the company plans to have them in operation for the 1957 and 1958 seasons.

Alan B. Wright of Daytona Beach, regional manager of the Florida Power & Light Co., was elected vice president at the board of directors quarterly meeting today. Wright, 55, joined Florida Power & Light in 1931 as a power salesman, later served as division sales manager and manager of the northern division.

*(Reprint from FLORIDA TIMES-UNION, August 16, 1955)*

## Y CAMP SEASON SET JULY 6 TO AUG. 24

Camp Kenan, the Lockport YMCA's summer camp for boys, will open its 34th season July 6 and the seven-week camping period will continue through Aug. 24, it was announced today by Chairman James J. Upson. Theodore C. Reidt, "Y" youth director, will serve as camp director for his second year.

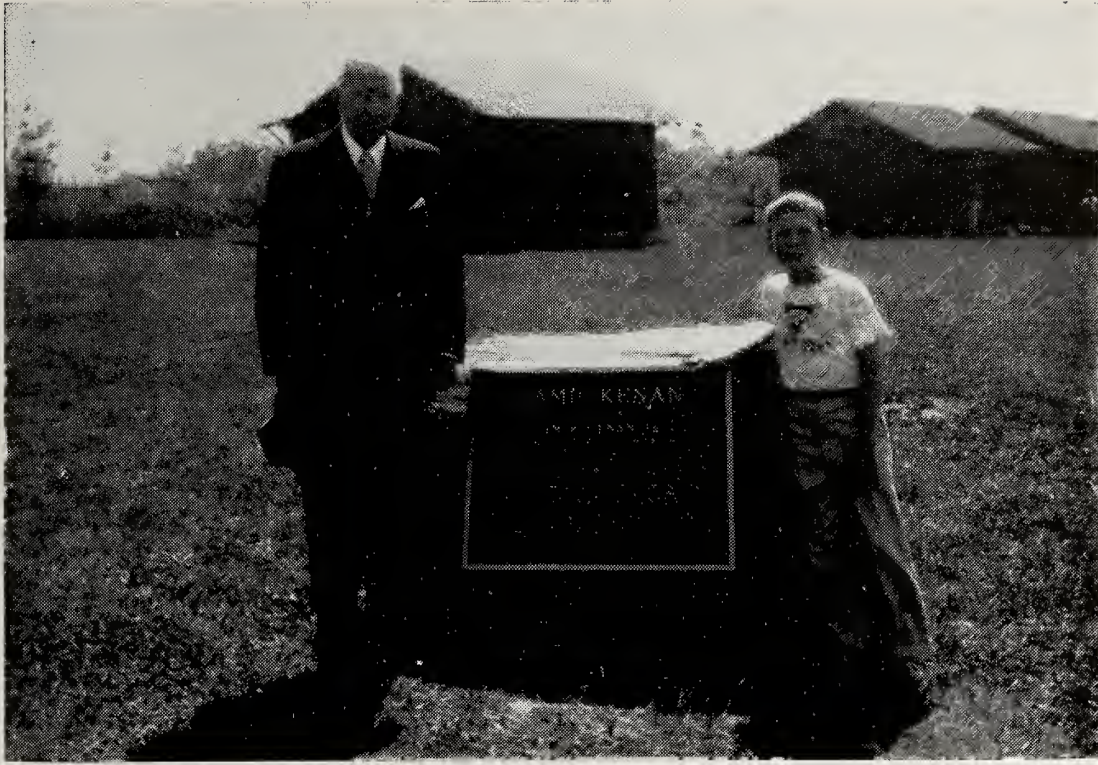
Mr. Upson announced his committees at the first meeting of the Camp Kenan Committee Wednesday evening at the





Y.M.C.A. Camp Kenan





Wm. R. Kenan, Jr., and Little Friend

YMCA. Robert H. Smith, Jr., general secretary of the YMCA, heads the Budget Committee, assisted by Kenneth A. Boos, Arthur E. Stayzer and Mr. Upson. Mr. Reidt will have charge of camper distribution.

Other committees are: Building and equipment, Charles C. Bartley, G. William Bewley, Donald R. Buchana, Herbert S. Newman Jr. and J. Wesley Querns; personnel, Arnold Austin and Edson Riley; sanitation and health, Dr. H. Braden Fitzgerald.

Promotion and publicity, Alvin B. Morgan, Wallace D. Soderholm and Gilbert F. Stakel; scholarship, Herbert S. Brewer, Sol Haber and C. Rhodes Palmer; parents' advisory, Mrs. Sol Haber and Mrs. James J. Upson.

Mr. Upson also reported that the "open house" dates this year will be June 8, 15 and 22 when prospective campers and their parents will be conducted on guided tours of Camp Kenan, which is located on Lake Ontario near Barker, to inspect the buildings, equipment, facilities and waterfront.

Mr. Reidt reported there were 332 individual campers who remained for a total of 678 camper weeks during the





Swimming

1957 season. The heaviest concentration of campers was in the 9-to-11 age range.

Camper distribution by cities included: Niagara Falls, 123; Lockport, 54; Buffalo, 26; Tonawanda, 19; North Tonawanda, 16; Rochester, 12; Lewiston, 11; Snyder, 9; Ransomville, 8; Egertsville, 8; Gasport, 5; Medina, 4.

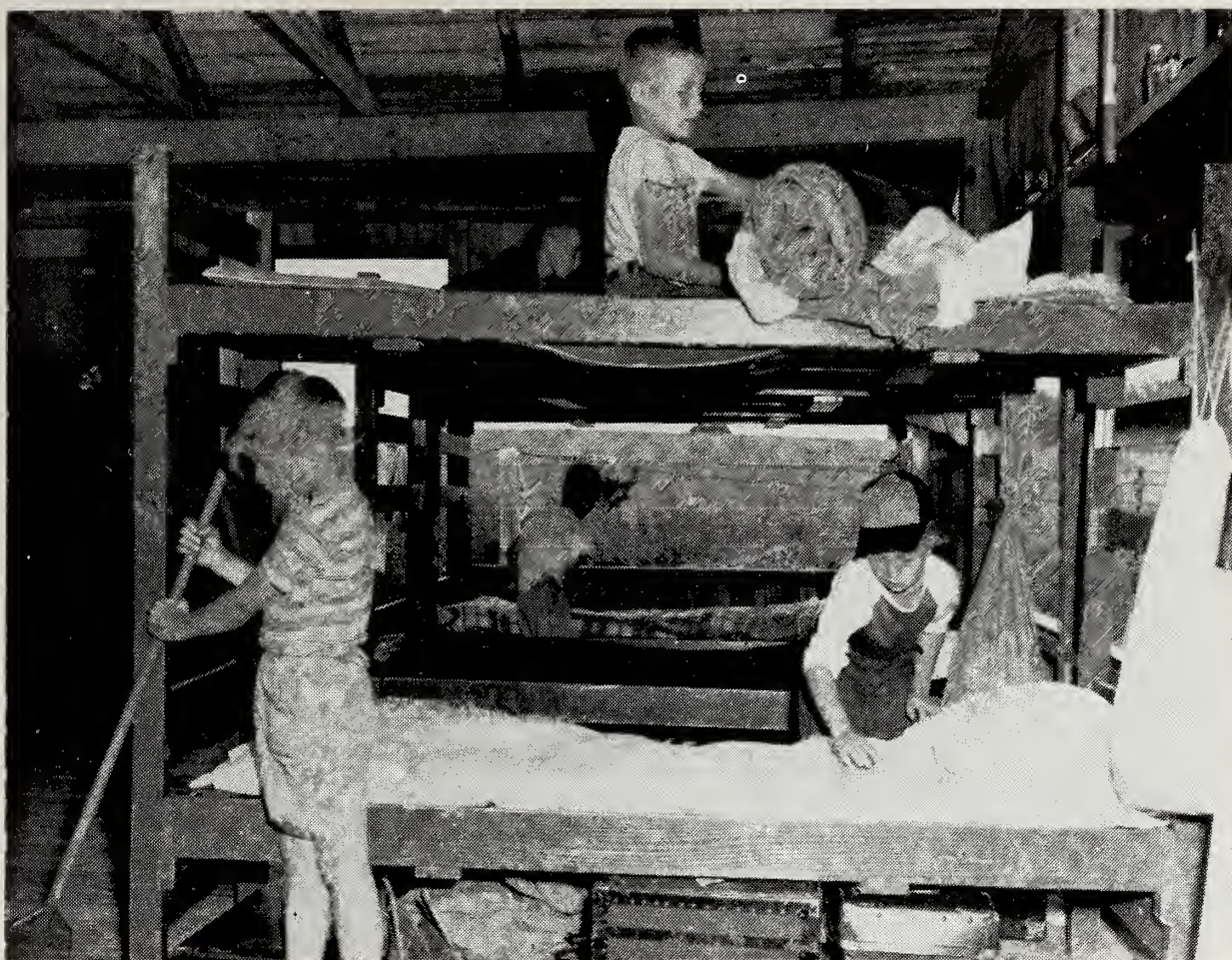
Major improvements included a new filter bed, new hot water tank in the shower house, a new gas griddle in the kitchen and the transplanting of pine trees to form a boundary on the south side of the camp grounds.

*(Reprint from UNION-SUN & JOURNAL, January 10, 1958)*

## GOODBYE MEANS HI AT KENAN TODAY

It's a topsy-turvy world wherein many strange things take place and nowhere more so than today at Camp Kenan where





Clean up Time

everything's happening in reverse! For today is "Backwards Day" at the Lockport YMCAs camp for boys following a Fourth of July fireworks display over Lake Ontario Wednesday evening and the screening of a special movie treat, Walt Disney's "Nature's Half Acre."

If you were to visit Camp Kenan today, you'd hear the boys greeting each other with a hearty "good-bye" when meeting each other and saying "hello" upon parting company. What's more, the campers are wearing their clothing inside out and backwards (whenever possible) and they're walking backwards whenever they enter the mess hall, store or Director Robert W. Querns' headquarters.

"Backwards Day" is Theodore C. Reidt's idea. The program director, who also doubles as assistant camp director, also has planned a cabin cook-out for today's activities. So far this week, which marks the opening of Camp Kenan's 32nd





Group of Campers

season, the boys have engaged in a Hare and Hounds Hunt and fire building contests. The campers, acting as "hounds," had to catch their counselors, who had the role of the "hares" and set up a trail in the woods by giving signals on a whistle.

Tomorrow the campers will go boating in the three new boats ordered this season and Saturday evening will be given over to boxing and wrestling. A camp fire stunt night is scheduled for Sunday. Program Director Reidt has scheduled such special activities for next week as a watermelon hunt, marshmallow roast, nature scavenger hunt, riflery and nature movies and another cabin cook-out.

Camp fire awards will be made July 14, the closing night of the first two-week period and a whole new ground of campers will arrive the following day to join those staying at Camp Kenan throughout the seven-week season.

James J. Upson, chairman of the Camp Kenan Committee, reports registrations are exceptionally good this year and that



prospective campers still may apply for any of the remaining periods starting July 15, July 29 and Aug. 12.

*(Reprint from UNION-SUN & JOURNAL, July 5, 1956)*

## Y CAMP FOUNDER HONORED

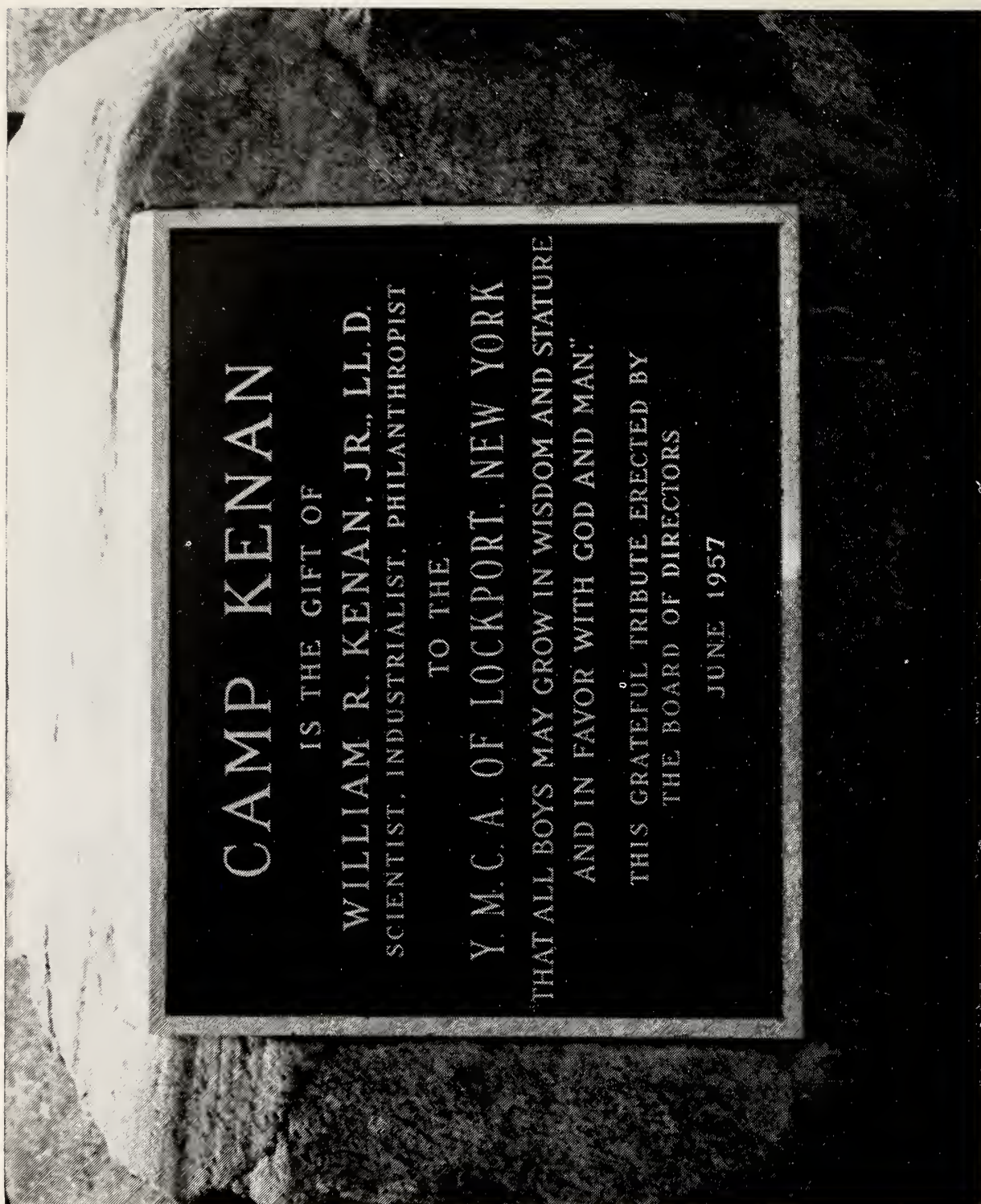
A bronze plaque honoring William R. Kenan Jr., founder and chief benefactor of Camp Kenan, was dedicated Sunday at the first open house for visitors at the camp north of Barker.

Mr. Kenan, prominent industrialist and scientist, attended the brief ceremonies in which James J. Upson, chairman of the Camp Kenan Committee; John A. Hall, president of the



JAMES J. UPSON





Board of Directors of the Lockport YMCA, and Robert H. Smith Jr., general secretary of the Lockport "Y," participated.

#### GIFT OF DIRECTORS

The plaque, mounted on an eight-ton boulder at the entrance to Camp Kenan, is a gift of the Board of Directors to honor

the philanthropist whose generosity led to the establishment in 1925 of the camp bearing his name.

Mr. Kenan expressed his sincere appreciation. The plaque bears a paraphrase of a quotation from the Bible—"That boys may increase in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man."

The second open house at Camp Kenan will be held this Sunday afternoon from 2 to 5 when committee members and staff personnel will conduct visitors around the camp area to inspect buildings and equipment.

Camp Director Theodore C. Reidt today announced the following senior counselors have signed contracts for this season:

Donald Riley, 6 Eisenhower Dr., junior at Lockport Senior High School and former counselor at the Binghamton YMCA's Camp Arrowhead; Walter Maslowski, 61 S. New York St., life guard and locker room attendant at the Lockport "Y" and former counselor who will be graduated from LSHS this month; Stephen D. Austin, 305 Beattie Ave., LSHS senior and active Hi-Y member.

#### RIFLERY INSTRUCTOR

W. Clifford Hill Jr., Snyder Amherst Central School junior and former Kenan counselor who will instruct riflery; James Reed, Wakefield, Mass., Wakefield High senior and desk clerk at the Wakefield YMCA; Angelo Ventrilla Jr., 1343 Willow Ave., Niagara Falls, former assistant cook at camp and now desk clerk at the North End YMCA.

Patrick Williams, Sweet Home Rd., Lewiston, Lewiston-Porter Central School senior and Kenan Jeffery, West Main St., Ransomville, and Bruce Nevins, Franklin St., Wilson, both seniors at Wilson Central School.

Lewis Gee, Snyder, Amherst Central School senior, former Kenan counselor and an accomplished wrestler; Douglas Brown, Ridge Rd., Middleport, junior at Royalton-Hartland Central School and former counselor and kitchen boy at Camp Kenan; Eric Jessiman, 3644 Chapin Ave., Niagara Falls, graduate



of Niagara Falls Senior High School and former Kenan counselor.

The staff also will include junior counselors, two chefs, four kitchen aides and a camp nurse.

*(Reprint from UNION-SUN & JOURNAL, June 11, 1957)*

## BRONZE PLAQUE HONORS KENAN

A bronze plaque honoring William R. Kenan Jr., founder and chief benefactor of Camp Kenan, was dedicated Sunday at the first "Open House" held for visitors at the camp north of Barker, Niagara County.

Mr. Kenan, prominent industrialist and scientist, attended the brief ceremonies in which James J. Upson, chairman of the Camp Kenan Committee; John A. Hall, president of the Board of Directors of the Lockport YMCA, and Robert H. Smith Jr., general secretary of the Lockport "Y," participated.

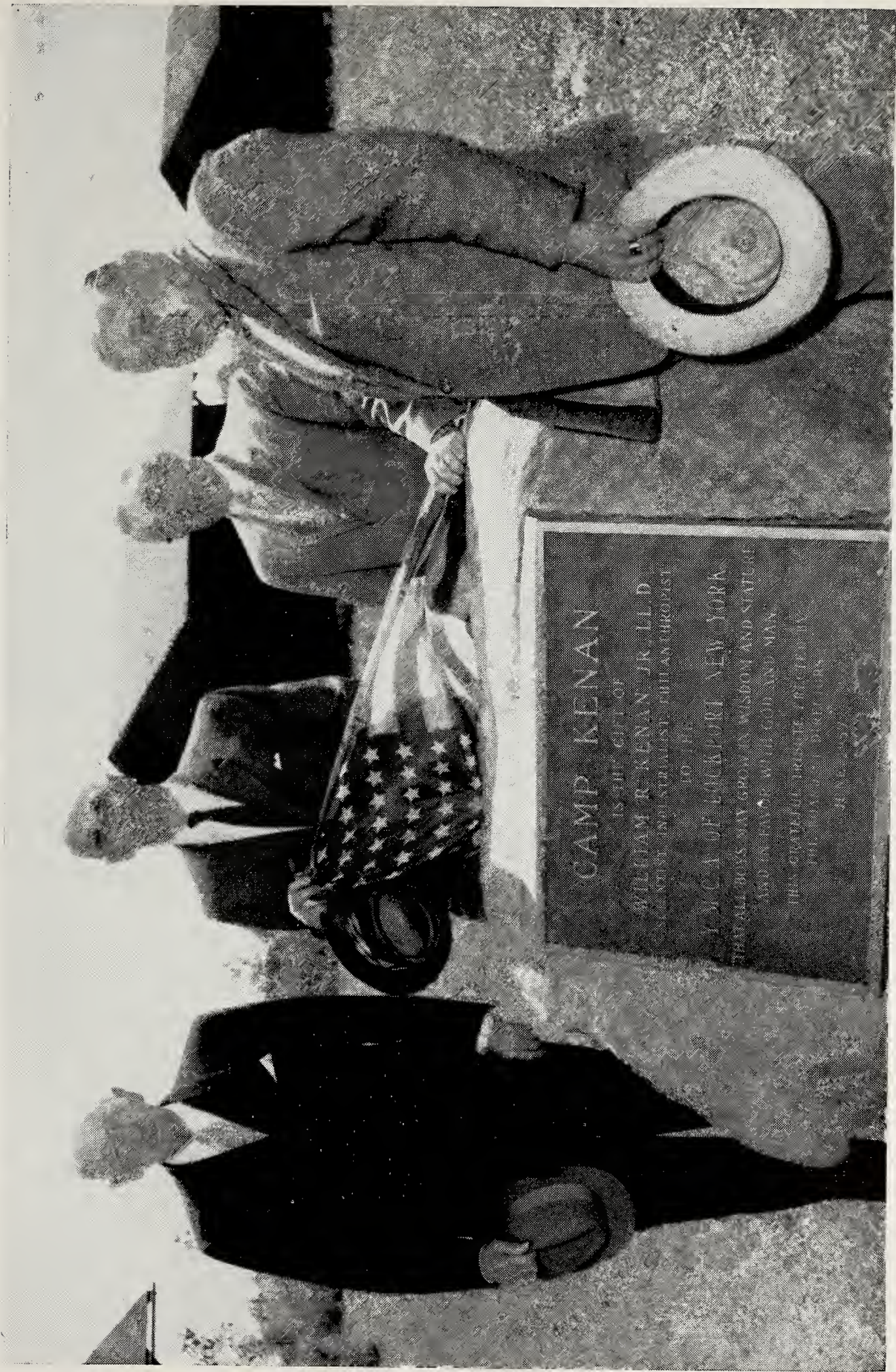
The plaque, mounted on an eight ton boulder at the entrance to Camp Kenan, is a gift of the Board of Directors to honor the philanthropist whose generosity led to the establishment of the camp bearing his name in 1925. Mr. Kenan expressed his sincere appreciation of the honor. The plaque bears a paraphrase of a quotation from the Bible—"That boys may increase in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and man."

The second "Open House" at Camp Kenan will be held this Sunday from 2 to 5 P.M. when committee members and staff personnel will conduct visitors around the camp area to inspect buildings and equipment.

Camp Director Theodore C. Reidt today announced the following senior counselors have signed contracts for this season:

Donald Riley, 6 Eisenhower Dr., junior at Lockport Senior High School and former counselor at the Binghamton YMCA's Camp Arrowhead; Walter Maslowski, 61 S. New York St., life guard and locker room attendant at the Lockport "Y" and former counselor who will graduate from Lockport High





Wm. R. Kenan, Jr., R. H. Smith, Jr., John A. Hall, and James J. Upson.



this month; Stephen D. Austin, 305 Beattie Ave., LSHS senior and active Hi-Y member.

W. Clifford Hill Jr., Snyder, Amherst Central School junior and former Kenan counselor who will instruct riflery; James Reed, Wakefield, Mass., Wakefield High senior and now desk clerk at the Wakefield YMCA; Angelo Ventrilla Jr., 1343 Willow Ave., Niagara Falls, former assistant cook at camp and now desk clerk at the North End YMCA.

Patrick Williams, Sweet Home Rd., Lewiston, Lewiston-Porter Central School senior and Kenan counselor last summer; Gary Jeffery, West Main St., Ransomville, and Bruce Nevins, Franklin St., Wilson, both seniors at Wilson Central School.

Lewis Gee, Snyder, Amherst Central School senior, former Kenan counselor and an accomplished wrestler; Douglas Brown, Ridge Rd., Middleport, junior at Royalton-Hartland Central School and former counselor and kitchen boy at Camp Kenan; Eric Jessiman, 3644 Chapin Ave., Niagara Falls, graduate of Niagara Falls Senior High School and former Kenan counselor.

The staff also will include 12 junior counselors, two chefs, four kitchen aides and a camp nurse.

### **CAMP SEASON NEAR; KENAN OPENS SUNDAY**

That great American outdoor institution, the summer camping season, is upon us again and the Lockport YMCA's Camp Kenan on Lake Ontario, near Barker, will open its 32nd year Sunday.

James J. Upson, chairman of the Camp Kenan Council and Advisory Committee, today announced the seven-week season is divided into the following four periods: July 1-15, July 15-29, July 29-Aug. 12 and Aug. 12-19. A full program of sports, swimming, athletic meets, crafts, overnight camping and other activities has been scheduled by Camp Director Robert W. Querns, Middleport, and Assistant Camp Director Theodore C. Reidt, Lockport.

To initiate the camp staff and counselors, the directors will





Handicrafts at Camp Kenan

begin a pre-camp training period tomorrow afternoon at the campsite and sessions will be held daily through Saturday. Campers will start arriving after noon Sunday and the first contingent will be indoctrinated by 6 o'clock.

With the rekindling of the camp fire Sunday evening, the Indian-like ceremonies will include the recalling of the Camp Spirit which was laid to rest on the closing day of the camp last year.

Director Querns, industrial arts instructor at Royalton-Hartland Central School, began camping at Camp Kenan back in 1936 and has served as a counselor, woodcraft instructor and program director. Assistant Director Reidt, the new Youth Work secretary of the Lockport "Y," also will serve as program director. He has served on the staff of three different YMCA and church camps. Mr. Reidt received his master's





Dining Hall

degree in social group work this month from George Williams College, the international YMCA training center in Chicago. He has just completed two years of service as assistant program director of the High Ridge Department of the Chicago "Y".

Campers will observe the Fourth of July at camp. Walt





Playing Football

Disney's "Nature's Half Acre" will be shown Wednesday evening and the day's celebration will be climaxed with a fireworks display over Lake Ontario.

The waterfront program will be directed this season by Jeffery Zwicker, 541 Willow St., a certified Red Cross and YMCA aquatic director. James Cornell, who was graduated from Wilson Central School with honors this month, will be athletic director. John Morgan, 457 Washburn St., a pre-medical student at the University of Rochester, again will be in charge of arts and crafts.

Mrs. Helen Sapp, Buffalo, a qualified registered nurse, has been engaged as camp nurse. James Muldoon, Buffalo, chef at Father Baker High School, will return as camp cook. Angelo Ventrilla Jr., Niagara Falls, will be assistant cook.

Other staff members are:

Senior Counselors: Richard Tripp, Lockport; Clifford Hill,



Snyder; Bruce Witt and David Stott, both of Ransomville; Eric Freischlog, Youngstown; Patrick Williams and Paul Muller, both of Lewiston; and Ronald Mort, Eric Jessiman, Arthur Askland and Ronald Mont, all of Niagara Falls.

Junior counselors: Paul Madson, Lockport; Robert Pollock, Newfane; David Lindstrom, Snyder; Herbert Beck, Hamburg; Robert Penney, Buffalo; James McFarland and Michael Brown, both of Niagara Falls; David Hoefner, Toledo, O.; and Stephen Holder and Jack Dasef, both of Grosse Pointe, Mich.

Kitchen Crew: Raymond Robison, David Schultz and Franklin Grout, all of Gasport; and Harold Allen and Carl Smith, both of Middleport.

*(Reprint from UNION-SUN & JOURNAL, June 26, 1956)*

### CAMP KENAN PLANS FOUR VISITING DAYS

Camp Kenan, the Lockport YMCA's summer camp for boys 8 to 14, will open its 33rd year July 7 and the seven-week season will continue through Aug. 25, it was announced today by Chairman James J. Upson. The camp, which was founded by William R. Kenan Jr., prominent Lockport industrialist, scientist and philanthropist, is located on Lake Ontario two miles north of Barker, Niagara County.

Mr. Upson reported that four special "open house" dates are scheduled this month on June 9, 16, 23 and 30 when committee members will conduct parents and prospective campers on tours of the camp area, buildings and waterfront. Visitors are invited to inspect the campsite on these dates between 2 and 5 in the afternoon. Registrations for any or all of the camping periods will be accepted on the open house dates.

Theodore R. Reidt, youth director of the Lockport YMCA, will serve as camp director this season. He was assistant director and program director at Camp Kenan in 1956 and formerly was assistant director and program director of the Boston YMCA's Camp Hun-Da-Ca and held a similar post with the Chicago YMCA's High Ridge Department. A grad-



Archery

uate of North Central College and George Williams College, Mr. Reidt is a member of the American Camping Association.

### PERIODS LISTED

Camping periods are scheduled as follows: July 7-July 21; July 21-Aug. 4; Aug. 4-Aug. 18 and Aug. 18-Aug. 25. Advance registrations may be made with Mr. Reidt at the YMCA, 21 East Ave. Two branches of the Niagara Falls YMCA also are cooperating in handling registrations which may be made with William White, North End Branch, 1326 Portage Rd., and Dwight E. Hanners, LaSalle Branch, 517 88th St.

Harold Berg of Chicago will serve as assistant camp director and program director this season. He will enter his senior year this fall at George Williams College, Chicago, in preparation for a YMCA career. Mr. Berg now is assistant



boys work secretary at the new West Suburban YMCA, La-Grange, Ill., and previously served four years as boys program assistant at the South Shore YMCA, Chicago. His camping experience includes two years as junior counselor at the YMCA Camp MacLean, Burlington, Wis. At the South Shore YMCA Day Camp, he spent three years as counselor, one year as program director and one year as assistant director.

#### LOCKPORTIANS ON STAFF

Two Lockportians have been signed as staff members. They are John Morgan, 457 Washburn St., who will return as crafts director, and Ernest Alix, 399 Ontario St., waterfront director. Mr. Morgan, a pre-medical student at the University of Rochester, is a graduate of Lockport High School and a former counselor at Camp Kenan. Mr. Alix, who will enter North Central College, Naperville, Ill., this fall, coaches the Lockport YMCA swim team and has set several Niagara Frontier League records this year as a member of the Lockport Senior High School swim team. He was voted most valuable member of the team for 1957. He is a former Kenan counselor.

Bruce Whitt, Curtis Ave., Ransomville, will be athletic director. A former Kenan counselor and a graduate of Wilson Central School, he is an accomplished rifleman and archer. He will be a sophomore at Hamilton College this fall.

Director Reidt's staff also will include 12 senior counselors, 12 junior counselors, nurse, head cook, assistant cook, four kitchen aides and a truck driver.

Camp Kenan is a non-profit camp. The registration fee is \$2 and the rates are \$28 a week with a special seven-week rate of \$185 for the season.

*(Reprint from UNION-SUN & JOURNAL, June 6, 1957)*

#### KENAN GIFT TO SPARK DRIVE FOR "Y" CAMP SWIM POOL

Plans for a memorial swimming pool at Camp Kenan were announced at a joint dinner meeting of the YMCA Board

of Directors and the Camp Kenan Committee Monday evening at the camp site near Barker.

James J. Upson, chairman of the camp committee and member of the board, reported William R. Kenan Jr., founder and chief benefactor of the "Y" Summer camp for boys, has made the first contribution to the pool fund. Mr. Kenan's gift, together with other donations from friends of the YMCA, has established a fund of \$15,180.

Mr. Upson said the Camp Kenan Committee has made a study of various types of pools. It is estimated that the proposed 35 by 75 foot pool would cost \$50,000. The committee believes that a welded steel pool would be more practicable than concrete in this area because of climatic conditions.

No bids have been advertised for and no specific company has been selected. Mr. Upson said that if the fund can be raised within the next month or two work on the project will be started at the end of the camp season. The pool will then be ready for campers next season.

The directors authorized President John A. Hall to work with the camp committee. He will appoint a special committee to decide how to raise the necessary money. Secy. Henry W. Schmidt reported that the motion, made by Thomas D. Cole and seconded by George W. Eaton, was approved unanimously.

No general fund-raising campaign is proposed but contributions will be sought from friends of the "Y," fathers of campers and civic leaders.

Robert H. Smith Jr., general secretary of the "Y," reported boys often have been able to swim only one or two days during a two-week camping period because of poor conditions and sudden drops in the water temperature from 72 to as low as 36 degrees.

Other directors present were William H. Bell, Dr. John P. Crosby, Jay A. Noble, Lawrence V. V. Moss, F. Somers Oldham and John E. Leinbach Jr.

Camp Kenan members attending the joint session included



Sol Haber, Alvin B. Morgan, Wallace D. Soderholm, Dr. H. Braden Fitz-Gerald, Harold H. Eaton and J. Wesley Querns.

*(Reprint from UNION-SUN & JOURNAL, August 12, 1957)*

## 90 BOYS ENTICED BY CAMP KENAN OPENING

The "new look" was evident as Camp Kenan opened its 32nd season Sunday at the campsite north of Barker with approximately 90 boys attending the first of three two-week periods.

Robert H. Smith, YMCA general secretary, said "more than \$6,000 was spent this year on improvements, repairing ice damage from last winter and the movement of two cabins near the hospital area.

The camp has three new boats. All cabins are screened for the first time in the camp's history. A new gate and drainage ditches have been installed."

The damage to the tennis courts, baseball backstops and basketball courts has been completely repaired, Mr. Smith said.

Robert W. Querns, a former Lockportian now teaching at Royalton-Hartland Central School, is camp director. Theodore S. Reidt, YMCA boys' work secretary, is assisting.

Jeffrey Zwicker of Lockport is head lifeguard in charge of the water-safety program. Mr. Zwicker will have a new platform from which to instruct beginning swimmers this year.

Lockport's John Morgan is director of hobbies. The camp has a one week period at the conclusion of its two-week sessions. Activities end Aug. 19.

*(Reprint from UNION-SUN & JOURNAL, July 2, 1956)*

## 100 BOYS TO START CAMP KENAN SEASON

Completely staffed by five directors, seven senior counselors and 12 junior counselors, Camp Kenan opens its 31st season on Lake Ontario near Barker Sunday when 100 first-period boys will report for a two-week stay. Camp personnel was announced today by Director Stanley Kern and Committee

Chairman James J. Upson. The camp, made possible by William R. Kenan Jr., is conducted under auspices of the Lockport YMCA.

Director Kern will be assisted by a corps of assistant directors, several of whom also will act as senior counselors. The entire program will be directed by William Bixby, Colgate-Rochester Divinity School Junior who is serving as student pastor at the Friends Church, Gasport.

Athletics Director James B. Dickenson, 104 Cottage St., is a junior at Niagara University and has had two years' experience as a counselor at the camp. Jeffrey A. Zwicker, 541 Willow St., will serve as aquatic director and counselor. He was vice president of his senior class and commanding officer of Company E at Saunton Military Academy and for two years was on the staff of Cochrane's Camp, Ontario.

#### OTHER DIRECTORS

John L. Morgan, 457 Washburn St., who has been on the Camp Kenan staff for the past two years, will be crafts director and counselor. He plans to introduce several new craft projects this season.

A Kenan counselor for the past three seasons, William R. Moyer, 388 Washburn St., has accepted the post of camp truck driver. He has just completed his first year at Middlebury College, Vermont. Last year he coached riflery at Camp Kenan.

Senior counselors from Lockport are:

Robert Foote, Locust Street Extension, who has coached crafts and was at camp last year; Edwin L. Bloomgren, 11 Royal Lane, who has coached swimming at the Lockport YMCA and has had three years' experience at camp; Ernest Alix, 399 Ontario St., who has coached swimming and football and was a staffer at Camp Kenan last season; Walter Maslowski, 61 South New York St., who has coached lifesaving and water safety.

Other senior counselors are: James C. Cornell Jr., Wilson, assistant athletics director at the camp in 1954; William A.



Stockfield Jr., Medina, who has coached swimming; Carl Bernhardt, Snyder, who was at Camp Kenan last season.

### JUNIOR COUNSELORS

Junior counselors from Lockport are:

Blair G. Hanel, 113 Akron St.; David Janicki, 660 Willow St.; John C. Miller, 80 Grasmere Rd.; David E. Surette, 104 Harvey Ave.; Robert Coyle, 138 Green St., and Richard A. Cain, 450 Washburn St.

Other junior counselors are: James McFarland and Walter Blumoff, Niagara Falls; Stephen Holder, Grosse Pointe, Mich.; Alfred A. Buerger Jr., Eggertsville; David H. Lindstrom, Snyder; Earl J. McGrath, Kenmore.

Registrations are being accepted for the seven-week season. Other periods will start July 17, July 31 and Aug. 14. Boys 8 to 14 are eligible to attend any period and seven-year-olds may be enrolled for the last one-week period Aug. 14-21.

### CAMP KENAN COMMITTEES

#### HISTORY

Dean of Camp Kenan Committee members is Arthur E. Stayzer, Business Secretary of the Lockport YMCA, who has been associated with the growth and development of the camp ever since the site was selected back in 1924. He has cooperated with all the camp directors during the 33 years the camp has been in operation. In 1935, Art became officially associated with the committee when he was named business manager of the committee and appointed to the Budget Committee. His annual financial reports at the conclusion of each season are concise and accurate to the last penny listed in the debits or credits columns.

Dr. R. Raymond Baxter, 300 Lincoln Avenue, Lockport, served as chairman of the Camp Kenan Committee from the early 1940's until 1947. Eugene F. Lerch, 481 Washburn Street, became chairman in 1948 and F. Corson Castle, 431

Willow Street, headed the committee during the 1949 season. Mr. Castle is president of the Corson Manufacturing Corporation, Mr. Lerch is a Buffalo businessman and Dr. Baxter is a prominent Lockport Dentist.

W. Robert Barker, of Beattie Avenue, who is with the Niagara County Bank Office of the Marine Trust Company of Western New York in Lockport, was chairman during the 1950, 1951 and 1952 seasons.

James J. Upson became chairman of the Camp Kenan Committee late in 1952 and served during the 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956 and 1957 seasons. His sub-committee members remained almost unchanged throughout this period. In 1955, for the first time, two women were added to the committee, comprising the Parents' Advisory Committee. They are Mrs. Sol (Esther) Haber and Mrs. James J. (Betty) Upson. Mr. Upson is president of The Upson Company and also chairman of the Lockport Chapter, American Red Cross, in addition to numerous civic and community activities.

## CAMP KENAN HISTORY

By WALLACE D. SODERHOLM

Founder and chief benefactor of Camp Kenan, the Summer Camp for boys operated by the Lockport YMCA on Lake Ontario just two miles north of Barker in Niagara County, William Rand Kenan Jr., Lockport industrialist, philanthropist, scientist, engineer and dairy farmer, has provided Western New York boys with one of the finest camps to be found anywhere.

Hundreds of former campers, staff members, directors and members of Camp Kenan committees have contributed to the success of the camp with their hard work and enthusiasm ever since it was established in 1925.

First to suggest such a camp for young boys was the late John Tagg, general secretary of the Lockport Y from 1921 to 1941. Back in 1924, Mr. Tagg approached Mr. Kenan with his dream of providing an outstanding camp for boys.



This was just a year before Mr. Tagg first announced that the YMCA Board of Directors had decided "the time is come when an adequate YMCA building is a vital necessity for the youth of Lockport." The new Y building became a reality after a campaign, spearheaded by Mr. Tagg, succeeded in raising \$387,000 for the present structure which was opened Nov. 8, 1927.

Devoted to the welfare and development of the community's youth, Mr. Tagg envisioned a camp that would provide boys with understanding and outstanding supervisors in a morally strong and physically healthful environment. Mr. Kenan became infected with the Y general secretary's enthusiasm and spirit. His suggestions were accepted wholeheartedly by Mr. Kenan and thus it was that in the Fall of 1924 Mr. Tagg and the late Marke E. Darrison investigated numerous locations and finally selected the site of the present Camp Kenan.

At that time, Camp Niagara was located near Keg Creek on the Singer Farm about five miles west of the Kenan camp-site. In the Spring of 1925, the lodge at Camp Niagara was dismantled into four parts and moved to its present site at Camp Kenan. Original facilities and buildings at Camp Kenan included the dining room and lodge, which was about two thirds the size of the present structure; a small washroom and lavatory, the boat house and a cabin which now is the photography lodge.

Campers slept out in tents and the first director of Camp Kenan was Charles C. Kelley, Boys' Work secretary of the Lockport Y, who brought much of his energetic and quick-witted personality and traits to his task of guiding Camp Kenan through its first season in 1925.

Roy S. Patterson of the Lockport-Olcott Road, Burt, directed Camp Kenan during the 1926 season. Mr. Patterson, a former director of Camp Niagara, had served as Boys' Work secretary of the Lockport Y during 1922-24. Mr. Tagg requested him to take over Camp Kenan when Mr. Kelley left Lockport for New England where he now is in industry in Springfield, Mass. During Mr. Patterson's season, the dining room and

lodge were wired for electricity and the water mains were placed under ground.

The 1927 camp was under the direction of Willard A. Kunz, former Boys' Work secretary, who served as director of Camp Kenan from 1927 through 1935. He now is working in Texas. During 1927, William H. Sandman, of 16 Regent St., Lockport, served as physical director and swimming instructor. "Sandy" was physical director of the Lockport Y from 1916 to 1940.

Extensive improvements were made to Camp Kenan during 1928. Electrical refrigeration facilities were made available. Prior to that time, all perishable foods were kept in a hole in the ground. A new wood stove displaced the dilapidated range used previously. The float made its initial appearance on the waterfront, the tennis courts were built and the dining hall was enlarged. Ten acres were purchased and added to the original seven acres comprising the camp property.

Early during the forepart of the 1929 season, the headquarters building was erected. An improved road leading from the Lower Lake Road into the camp was constructed, the cyclone fence was erected and, with the advent of Thomas M. Steen as assistant camp director, there came a more personal type of work with the campers and staff than had been attempted before then.

Wendell T. Applebee, later director of the Adult Education Program in the Lockport Public Schools, joined Camp Kenan in 1930 and instituted a real program of craft work. Tom Steen served as an assistant director of crafts along with Jay A. Noble Jr., under Mr. Applebee. Mr. Steen later became an assistant minister of Asbury Presbyterian Church, Rochester. Young Jay Noble was killed in World War II. A trained nurse was added to the staff and the year also marked the start of a planned and prepared menu under direction of Mrs. William Hageman. New equipment included the steel flat pole, an electric mixer for the kitchen, three new cabins and the enlarging of the sewage system with its subsequent approval by the State Department of Health. Mr.



Wendell Applebee also was active in introducing an archery program. He and Mr. Steen and Jay Noble served on the staff five years. In 1930, Floyd Ziehl also started a draft class in radio and he was director of the water front too.

The camp hospital was erected in 1931 as was the first craft lodge. Improvements included installation of an electric dish washer, the addition of new washroom and lavatory facilities, the construction of the railing on the boat house and the construction of three more cabins. During this year more emphasis was placed on the selection of the staff and the carrying out of a well-rounded program.

J. Lawrence Hill Jr., then a student at the University of Rochester, joined the staff in 1932 and had charge of photography. An old cabin was transformed into one of the finest photography lodges possessed by any camp. This year also saw the organization of the Father's Club, the "brain child" of Laurie Hill who later became professor of engineering at the University of Rochester.

Other improvements undertaken during 1932 were the installation of a second electric refrigerator in the kitchen, the construction of two new cabins and the erection of the second craft lodge.

Improvements in both the staff and the camp program were made in 1933 and the first rifle range was placed in operation.

The recreation hall, a long hoped-for improvement, was erected in 1934. An instructor in music and dramatics was added to the staff and a fuel oil stove replaced the wood burner. During 1935, the last year Willard A. Kunz served as camp director, the concrete pier was built on the waterfront and another cabin and a senior staff cabin were erected.

J. Lawrence Hill Jr., served as camp director during 1936.

In 1937, Forest J. Varny became camp director and remained throughout the 1941 season. Improvements accomplished during his directorship included the building of a well-equipped infirmary, the enlargement of the washroom and lavatory facilities and other improvements on the camp site. An inter-camp telephone system also was installed.

Mr. Varney later became active in YMCA work in New Jersey.

With the advent of World War II, enrollment dropped off but Camp Kenan remained open during the war years in attempting to serve families with sons needing this change of pace. Oscar (Ockie) Schmidt served as director during 1942-43 and later taught school in Buffalo before his retirement.

Fred B. Case, now assistant principal of Lockport Senior High School, was director of Camp Kenan during 1944-47. More cabins were erected to meet the increased enrollment following the war period. Harry C. Wardell, Boys' Work secretary of the Lockport Y, was camp director during 1948 and 1949, followed by Joseph C. Stinson in 1950.

The Camp Store was built in 1943 and the Director's Cabin in 1948.

Major improvement in 1951 was the erection of the Cook's Cabin.

Robert T. Esty became director of Camp Kenan in 1951 and served through 1954 while employed as Boys' Work secretary at the Lockport Y. New stainless steel equipment was installed in the kitchen, new concrete was poured on the basketball court, net standards were reset on the three tennis courts and the entire wire backstop at one end was replaced. James N. McCutcheon served as program director, assisted by James B. Dickenson in 1953. Other staff members for 1953 were Charles (Moose) McLean, swimming director; F. Malcolm George, crafts director.

Camp Director Esty was assisted in 1954 by Edward Francis, program director; James B. Dickenson, athletic director; Terry Finnell, crafts director; William Bixby, personnel coordinator; Mrs. Edward (Bette) Francis, camp secretary; Ronald Allan, swimming director.

In 1955, Stanley Kern of Poughkeepsie, who was Youth secretary of the Y for one year, was camp director. He married Mrs. Grace C. Drews July 1, 1955, just before camp opened July 3. The seven-week season continued through Aug. 21. The staff included: James B. Dickenson, athletics



director; William Bixby, program director, who was serving as student pastor at the Friends Church, Gasport; John L. Morgan, crafts director; Jeffery Zwicker, aquatic director. The rifle range was relocated and rebuilt and the crafts program was revised to include several new projects. Stan resigned from the Y and returned to Poughkeepsie in March, 1956.

Robert W. Querns, industrial arts instructor at Royalton-Hartland Central School, Middleport, was engaged as camp director for 1956. The season opened July 1 and continued through Aug. 19. Theodore C. Reidt, who became Youth Work Secretary of the Lockport Y in June, 1956, served as assistant director. The staff included Jeffery Zwicker, aquatic director; James Cornell, athletic director; James Muldoon, camp cook. Some \$6000 was spent on camp improvements, including the screening of cabins, purchase of three new boats, the removal of two cabins to the hospital area, installation of a new gate and drainage ditches.

Theodore C. Reidt became director of Camp Kenan for the 1957 season which opened July 7 and continued through Aug. 25. His staff included Harold Berg, senior at George Williams College, Chicago, assistant camp director and program director; Ernest Alix, Lockport, waterfront director; John Morgan, Lockport, crafts director; Bruce Whitt, Ransomville, athletic director.

## EXTRACURRICULAR EXTRAS

A picture always indelibly imprinted on the memory of any visitor to Chapel Hill is the panorama of Kenan Stadium, gift of William Rand Kenan, Jr. . . . This unique athletic amphitheatre has dramatized the undoubted values of intercollegiate football and the Kenan pageantry is an "*extracurricular extra*" that has woven Chapel Hill inextricably into the hearts and souls of University alumni and friends.

*(Written by R. B. House, Chancellor)*

## CITATIONS OF HONOR

William Rand Kenan, Jr.: Distinguished scientist, especially in the field of Chemistry, famous for his discovery, with Dr. Francis P. Venable, of calcium carbide, noted engineer and pioneer builder who worked with Henry M. Flagler in constructing the Florida East Coast Railway and the chain of large hotels connected with it, thus opening for development the entire east coast of Florida as the nation's playground; banker, industrialist, railroad president and proprietor of Randleigh Farm at his home in Lockport, New York, where he is specializing in research on grasses and raising fine Jersey cattle; born in North Carolina in 1873 and member of a family noted for its benefactions to the University and the State; graduate of the University in the Class of 1894.

*(Reprint from THE BOOKMARK, University of N. C., June, 1955)*

## NOTED INDUSTRIAL LEADERS TO ATTEND REUNION OF CLUB

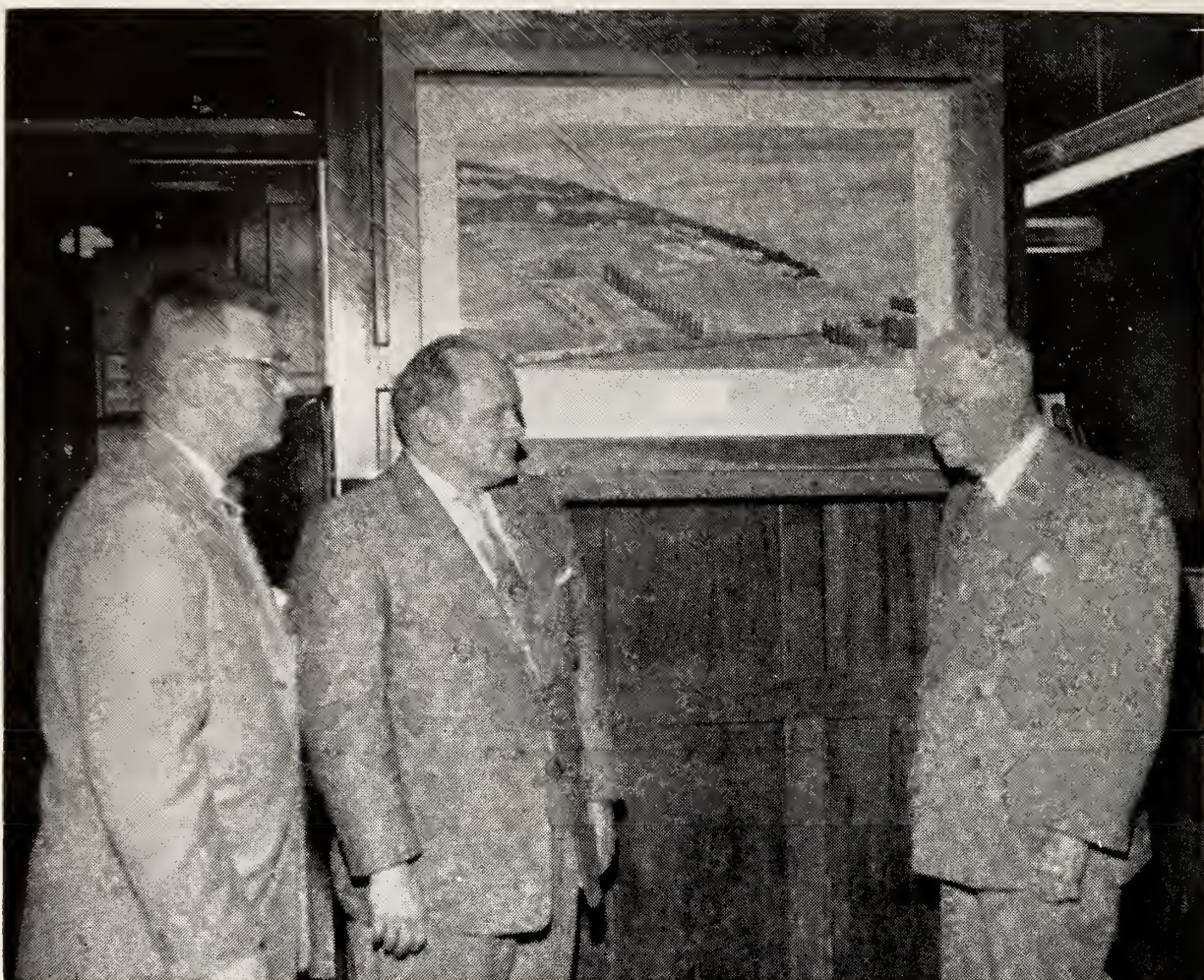
A reunion of the Niagara Falls University Club could easily pass for a directors' meeting of a large corporation. The small, exclusive club at 315 Buffalo avenue has an array of presidents and high ranking officers of industrial concerns in its membership.

University Club members object strenuously to the tag "exclusive," but it applies in the sense that membership is restricted to college graduates "pursuing an engineering or scientific vocation." The club also is made exclusive by its physical limitations. The historic old building can house no more than 12 men at one time.

On June 17 and 18, the survivors among the club's 166 members who have joined since its founding Sept. 19, 1895, are invited to the 60th reunion. Among the many who will come will be a preponderance of officials of chemical manufacturing corporations.

The honorary chairman of the reunion is now chairman of the board and former president of the Hooker Electro-





CAMP KENAN—1957—Attending the unveiling of an artist's watercolor sketch of Camp Kenan, which was hung in the Lockport YMCA lobby during the summer of 1957, are, from left: Theodore C. Reidt, camp director; James J. Upson, chairman of the Camp Kenan Committee and William R. Kenan, Jr., founder and chief benefactor of the Lockport YMCA's camp for boys.

chemical Co.—Edwin R. Bartlett. R. Lindley Murray, current Hooker chief executive, is one of the subcommittee chairmen. Others who will take an active part in the traditional celebration are top men in Union Carbide and Carbon Corp., Carborundum Co., Olin-Mathieson Chemical Corp. and other pioneer Niagara Falls chemical concerns.

#### SIX FOUNDERS OF CLUB

The late Frank J. Tone, for many years the guiding light of Carborundum, was one of the six founders of the University Club. The other five charter members were William K. Dunlap, Paul M. Lincoln, Richard M. Masson, Joseph R. Haskin and Frederick A. Stoughton. Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Dunlap



later moved from Niagara Falls to join the Westinghouse Co. in Pittsburgh, while Mr. Masson and Mr. Haskin moved out to Los Angeles, Calif. Mr. Stoughton went to Potsdam, N. Y., with the Northern Power Co.

It's no coincidence that most of the early members rose to lofty posts in the infant chemical and metallurgical industries. They were the young men who came to Niagara Falls to run the pioneer plants here. This city, with its abundant electric power, was the starting point for many major concerns.

The principal intent of the six founders was only to establish for themselves a pleasant home in a strange city. Primarily that is what the University Club has remained. It's a group of bachelors, working in engineering and scientific jobs, who find living together both convenient and economical.

To a considerable degree the membership has been transient (if it hadn't there wouldn't have been 166 members in 60 years. Due to business changes and transfers, many of its members, after living for a time in this city, have moved to other industrial communities, thus making room for new members. Many, too, took the trip to the altar that removed them from resident membership.

University Club reunions were events of transcendental importance in the days before World War I. For both the 1910 and 1915 reunions the Gazette ran special extras, devoting several pages to the club, its members and its activities.

### CARRIED BIG HEADLINES

These editions carried 8-column headlines, "University Club Holding Reunion" and "University Club Reaches Twentieth Milestone." The weekend was jam-packed with events for the revelling members, brought back to Niagara Falls from all over the United States. Usually, the program included a reception and ball, both very formal, athletic games and a banquet.

This year's reunion may not be so colorful because the members are much older and more sedate than they were at the time of the 15th and 20th reunions.



The sight of the old clubhouse, once a private home, will evoke many pleasant memories for the returnees, especially for the oldest members. Club officials expect that William R. Kenan Jr., who became the 13th member on Feb. 8, 1896, will be the dean of the delegation.

Mr. Kenan, now 83 and retired, makes his home in Lockport. He was a director of many corporations and at one time was president of the Florida East Coast Railway.

When he came to this city, Mr. Kenan took a job with the Carbide Manufacturing Co., now Electro Metallurgical Co., at \$25 a week. He was one of the many energetic and bright young men brought here by the infant electric chemical business.

According to a letter Mr. Kenan received from Samuel Kent, Carbide's president at the time, this was all the company expected him to do for his \$25:

"We will expect you to work ten hours a day seven days a week. During six hours of this time you will have charge of the plant and of all men at work at such time. During the rest of the ten hours we will expect you to make tests of the carbide from each charge of the furnace and to make an occasional determination of the lime in the furnace mixtures. There will also be submitted to you for analysis samples of lime and coke. We will expect you also to keep the time of the other men, to make out the payrolls and to attend to the correspondence and the shipments of carbide and the receipts of lime and coke."

#### OTHERS WORKED SIMILAR HOURS

All of the other early members of the University Club worked similar hours. It seems a wonder they had time to hold social affairs.

The club at 315 Buffalo Ave. was the residence of Gen. H. W. Pettebone and his wife, Lavina Townsend, who moved into the mansion in 1876. It was given to the couple as a

wedding present by the Townsend family. Gen. Pettebone ran a flour mill on Green Island.

The University Club occupied the building from 1895 until 1907 when it was forced to move to the old McDonald home, 120 Third St. The members were evicted when Frank Haskell, then president of the Carborundum Co., bought the building for his private home.

From Third street the club moved back onto Buffalo Ave. and into the old Col. Peter Porter mansion in 1909. This was headquarters until 1935 when the National Biscuit Co. decided to raze it. At the time of its demolition unsuccessful efforts were made by various local organizations to preserve it as a historic shrine.

Where did club members move then? Of all places, they went back to 315 Buffalo Ave. where everything had started 40 years before.

The old clubhouse, now painted dark green, is a landmark near the intersection of Hillcrest and Buffalo Ave. Next weekend it will be bursting at the seams with members past and present—the top brass of the chemical industry of yesterday, today and tomorrow.

*(Reprint from NIAGARA FALLS GAZETTE, June 8, 1955)*

## **WILLIAM R. KENAN, JR., LOOKS BACK ON SUCCESSFUL CAREER ON 83rd BIRTHDAY**

As he observed his 83rd birthday on April 30th, William R. Kenan Jr., long-time winter resident of St. Augustine, looked back over a life filled with successes along many lines, and anticipated many more happy and useful years.

Mr. Kenan's connection with St. Augustine and Florida has covered a span of 55 years and Hotel Ponce de Leon has been his winter home during most of those years.

It was in 1900 that Henry M. Flagler, the developer of the east coast of Florida, commissioned Mr. Kenan to do important construction work for him at Palm Beach. And from that time on Mr. Flagler kept the young man busy



building water, gas and electric plants in various communities he was desirous of developing.

Mr. Kenan was a valued and trusted associate of Mr. Flagler before there was any family connection. It was in 1901 that the millionaire developer married Miss Mary Lily Kenan, sister of William R. Kenan Jr.

### GREATEST SATISFACTION

When interviewed recently by a representative of the Record at his offices in St. Augustine, Mr. Kenan was asked "Among your numerous enterprises and accomplishments, which gives you the greatest satisfaction?" He quickly replied that the scientific work at Randleigh Farm, his big farm near Lockport, N. Y., ranks an easy first, because it has so many implications for good to mankind.

Many of the experiments carried on there with dairy herds are fraught with good for humans, as indicated by the great interest shown by many of the big laboratories and drug concerns . . . concerns which follow Mr. Kenan's work done along nutritional lines . . . also the use of antibiotics. Sulfa drugs were being used at Randleigh Farm long before they were ever used on people.

### DIVERSIFIED INTERESTS

It seems incredible that any one man could have achieved success along so many lines as Mr. Kenan. He is an inventor, discoverer, business man, engineer, scientist, chemist, philanthropist, industrialist, financier, dairy farmer, and cattle breeder.

Also add to his accomplishments that he has written and published a number of books. Three volumes are "Incidents by the Way," and form the record of a long and useful life. The others recount the history of Randleigh Farm, and the important work done there, and these are of immense interest to dairymen and cattle breeders everywhere. Mr. Kenan receives requests for copies from almost every country in the world.

Mr. Kenan's books of personal recollections, printed in 1946, 1949, and 1952, are dedicated to his wife, Alice Pomroy Kenan, who died in 1947. He was induced to start this series of lifetime recollections, as he says in his prologue, to the first volume "by affection for my immediate family, and for the younger generation of the Kenan family."

His philosophy of life is summed up perhaps in the foreword to his first volume of memoirs, in which he says "Ambition is a stimulating little quality that prompts one to want any thing they haven't so far been able to possess. No one perhaps ever reaches his goal, but that is not failure. Real success comes with the steady pursuit of what you are trying to accomplish."

### SCOTCH-IRISH ANCESTRY

Mr. Kenan is of Scotch-Irish ancestry, and his forebears came to Wilmington, N. C., in 1730-31. From that time on the Kenans were prominent in North Carolina and the South. James Kenan was a member of the Committee of Safety for the Wilmington District in 1775; member of the Provincial Congress at Halifax, N. C., in 1778; colonel of the militia of Duplin County during the Revolutionary War, brigadier general of militia after the war, and for many years a member of the State Senate.

William Rand Kenan, father of Wm. R. Kenan, Jr., was a captain and adjutant of the 43rd North Carolina, C.S.A.

William R. Kenan, Jr., was born April 30, 1872, at the family home, 110 Nun Street, Wilmington. Pictures show this to be a gracious type of Southern home.

From a boy he was interested in construction, a bent which was later to play a part in determining his career.

Many of Mr. Kenan's early recollections center about Liberty Hall at Kenansville, home of his paternal grandparents. Kenansville is the oldest town in Duplin County, and many events of historical importance have centered there. Liberty Hall was built in the 1840's by Major Owen R. Kenan, and it is recorded in the annals of the town that there "the most lavish



social event in Duplin County took place.” That was when the major’s granddaughter, Miss Mary Lily Kenan, was married to Henry M. Flagler in 1901. Well-known and distinguished people from all parts of the country attended the wedding.

### EARLY EDUCATION

After attending private schools, and military school, young Kenan entered the University of North Carolina in 1890, taking a four-year scientific course, and receiving his B.S. degree in 1894. The summers of 1892 and 1893 he spent in research work on calcium carbide under the direction of Dr. E. P. Venable. In this connection, Mr. Kenan says, “We discovered carbide, determined its formula and made known the fact that acetylene gas could be evolved from it.”

After a year of teaching in a private school for boys in Virginia, he returned to North Carolina, and obtained a position with the General Electric Company. As an indication of what salaries were at that time, he received \$80 a month and no expense account, except when moving from one location to another. In 1896 he went to join the Carbide Manufacturing Company at Niagara Falls, N. Y., where he assisted in the erection of buildings and installation of plants, and was made chemical superintendent. That called for work 10 hours a day, seven days a week, and the young man’s success in a difficult job may be gauged by the fact that during the year he was detailed to go to Australia for the purpose of developing and constructing a carbide plant. Then he was ordered to London, and thence to Berlin where he was constructing and consulting engineer for the German Acetylene Company. After completing his mission in Berlin, he returned to Niagara Falls, having traveled around the world on business before he was 26 years old. After that, promotions and advancement came quickly. June 1st, 1900, he entered the employ of the Traders Paper Company at Lockport, N. Y., as assistant manager in charge of construction and operation, also holding other positions in Lockport. During

1899 and 1900 he made many trips to New York, and it was there he met Henry M. Flagler. It was in the summer of 1900 that Mr. Flagler was constructing the Breakers at Palm Beach and consulted Mr. Kenan about building a power plant. Evidently Mr. Flagler was much impressed with the young man's ability, for in 1903 he appointed him consulting and construction engineer for the Florida East Coast Hotel Company, and placed him in charge of all their plants. There were numerous other connections with big concerns, and Mr. Flagler came to rely more and more upon the man who became his brother-in-law. In 1904 Mr. Kenan was elected a director of the Florida East Coast Railway and Florida East Coast Hotel Companies. April 9, 1904 he married Miss Alice Pomroy of Lockport. In 1907 he became interested in the Western Block Company of Lockport, which has grown and prospered through all the years.

When Mr. Flagler died in 1913, his will, made many years before, named Joseph R. Parrott, William H. Beardsley and Mr. Kenan as executors and trustees. He placed the property in trust, with specific directions as to duration, etc.

For many years it has been Mr. Kenan's custom to spend the winter months at the Ponce de Leon, making frequent trips back to New York and Lockport to transact business there. The main offices of all the Flagler companies are in St. Augustine, so this is the most convenient place to establish winter headquarters.

Mr. Kenan is an officer or director in literally dozens of companies and corporations. Since he is exceedingly conscientious in attending to business detail, a vast amount of time is devoted to the affairs of these concerns.

### HONORARY DEGREE

In 1944 Mr. Kenan was honored by receiving the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from the University of North Carolina at his class reunion (50 years). His humanitarian work at Randleigh Farm and his YMCA work at Camp Kenan were



recognized in this way. Camp Kenan has been built on a tract of land on the shores of Lake Ontario at Barker, N. Y. This is the summer camp of the Lockport YMCA, made possible by Mr. Kenan's generous gifts. There are many fine buildings and accommodations for 150 boys and their leaders. Also among his philanthropic gifts are the beautiful Kenan Memorial Fountain presented to the City of Wilmington and the Kenan Stadium, given to University of North Carolina in memory of his parents. It seats 24,000 persons. The First Presbyterian Church at Lockport has benefited by his generous gifts, as has Flagler Memorial Presbyterian Church of this city.

In speaking of Mr. Kenan's gifts, particularly where St. Augustine is concerned, the local Young Men's Christian Association Building might be cited. The building, erected about 50 years ago by Mr. Flagler, at the corner of Valencia and Riberia Streets, belongs to the Model Land Company which Mr. Kenan heads. It is considered one of the finest "Y" buildings in this area, and the Model Land Company gives the use of this splendid plant to the community. It also maintains the structure at considerable expense annually. This is a magnificent gift to the community, which has no responsibility, except to raise about \$8,000 annually to pay salaries, and keep the extensive "Y" program operating. Many organizations are working with young people in St. Augustine, and providing ways and means of combatting juvenile delinquency. It may safely be said that no one single agency provides so broad a program for youth as the YMCA, or ministers to so many throughout the year.

Mr. Kenan has also shown his interest in the preservation and restoration program for St. Augustine. When Carnegie Institute was fostering a program here some years ago, to preserve and restore ancient landmarks and buildings, Mr. Kenan made a generous contribution.

The Florida East Coast Hotel Company owns, maintains and preserves in dignified and impressive fashion one of the most beautiful and famous hotels in the country, the Ponce

de Leon, built and opened by Mr. Flagler in 1888. It is one of the city's greatest assets from a picturesque, artistic and cultural aspect. Through the generosity of Mr. Kenan and the hotel management it is the center of much of St. Augustine's social life each season.

Also, through the same fine consideration and cooperation, the facilities of the Ponce de Leon Golf Club, both the course and the club house, are made available to local golfers with membership fees being set well below what might be expected. This is an 18-hole professional course, which has become famous through the country. A similar advantageous arrangement has been worked out with regard to use of the Ponce de Leon Hotel pool . . . this is a great boon to Country Club members and their families.

### SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

Since the work at Randleigh Farm is so far-reaching from a scientific standpoint, it might be said that Mr. Kenan has devoted years of effort and much money toward the accomplishment of a truly unique program. Many scientists from Colleges and universities go there by invitation to help with the work, and also to benefit by it. At the model dairy farm numberless experiments are carried on, looking toward the benefit of mankind. The fine Jersey cows at Randleigh Farm are always chalking up records on production, butterfat, etc., due to scientific feeding and other factors connected with their care. The owner has been honored by many scientific groups, and among others was given the Master Breeders Award by the American Jersey Cattle Club. Because of the careful records kept at the farm on scientific tests and feeding, including better pastures, and hay crops, fertilization of fields, etc., information is available to those seeking it.

There are 225 to 230 head of Jersey cattle on the farm, where time, talent, knowledge and money are lavished on scientific care of the stock. As a result, much has been learned concerning nutrition . . . also the diseases of cattle. Each year an agricultural scientific conference is held at the farm,



with some of the country's noted scientists in attendance. Annually many young college graduates have an opportunity to work, study and observe at this model farm. Numbers remain at the farm in some capacity, while others, after gaining experience, and profiting by the scientific training, go into farming for themselves.

### HEADS FLAGLER COMPANIES

Mr. Kenan is president of the Florida East Coast Hotel Company, the Model Land Company, and other Flagler System companies. While in St. Augustine, he spends several hours daily in his offices in the General Office Buildings of the Florida East Coast Railway. He is a firm believer in daily exercise, and always walks to and fro between Hotel Ponce de Leon and his office. In fact, his formula for a long life and a happy one is "Keep busy, don't worry about anything, never eat too much, exercise daily and help your fellow-man."

That's a wonderful guide for living, and certainly Mr. Kenan has found it effective. Through his numerous benefactions, he has helped many people in various ways, his philanthropies being varied, and it must be a great source of satisfaction to the subject of this sketch to think of the many lives that have been enriched in one way or another, because he has been able to share some of the good things of life . . . to make his money work for him in ways that have brought lavish returns along scientific, educational, and humanitarian lines, particularly.

*(Reprint from ST. AUGUSTINE RECORD, June 1, 1955)*

### KENAN AWARDED UB CITATION AT CEREMONIES

William R. Kenan Jr., 433 Locust St., was among leaders in 12 fields who received citations by the University of Buffalo Monday for distinguished service and contributions to business and community life.





KENAN AWARDED U. B. CITATION

Among those also receiving citations at the dedication services of the \$2,300,000 University Tower Dormitory were Gov. Averell Harriman and the Rt. Rev. Lauriston L. Scaife, DD, STD, LLD, bishop of the Diocese of Western New York of the Episcopal Church.



Mr. Kenan's citation read: "His career symbolizes the spirit of America. From young manhood when he assisted in the discovery of calcium carbide, which has revolutionized industrial processes, he has been a creative builder. He has contributed his constructive talents to many enterprises in the fields of chemistry, power, railways, finance and scientific farming.

"He has traveled the globe and his native land to create industry through chemistry and electricity. He has made a vast contribution to the growth of the Niagara Frontier and to a large section of the state of Florida. In addition, he has found time to devote to civic affairs.

"His concern for the welfare of young people has been manifested through his contributions to facilities for camping and university athletic activities. The university . . . bestows this citation . . . for his distinguished contributions to the progress and welfare of America and for his devotion to fundamental humanities," the citation read.

The citations were given as part of Education Day activities of the World Port Celebration.

*(Reprint from UNION-SUN & JOURNAL, Lockport, N. Y., Oct. 1, 1957)*

## COMPANY DIRECTOR IS NOTED ENGINEER

William R. Kenan, Jr., is one of a band of trained-in-Florida men who direct the operation of Florida Power & Light Co. under the guidance of 30,000 stockholders.

Kenan, 81, is key man in the extensive Flagler interests in Florida and, although he now lives near Lockport, N. Y., his name has been linked with development enterprises all along Florida's East Coast since the turn of the century.

He has made outstanding contributions in the chemical industry, and in scientific and technical fields.

The internationally known engineer designed and built Miami's first electric plant in 1903, nine years after his graduation from the University of North Carolina. Always inter-



J. M. Morehead and Wm. R. Kenan, Jr.

ested in the state, he has invested much time and money here ever since.

At his alma mater, he first helped to install a steam and electric plant. In 1896, he assisted in the installation and operation of a plant for the production of calcium carbide



in Niagara Falls, N. Y., receiving \$25 a week for working 10 hours a day, seven days a week.

Following the same line of work, he traveled throughout the United States and to Australia and Germany.

The distinguished scientist has been awarded the degree of Doctors of Laws by the University of North Carolina for his many contributions to science and humanity.

World-renowned achievements as a chemist, engineer, executive, scientist and farmer have made him economically successful and he is also well known for his philanthropies. Among his many projects are the Kenan Camp for Boys and YMCA Camp.

He was president of the Florida East Coast Railway, later co-receiver. From 1913 to 1924 he was president and director of FP&L, then called the Miami Electric Light & Power Co.

Other Florida enterprises in which he is active are the Peninsular and Occidental Steamship Co., Model Land Co., St. Augustine Golf Development and Florida East Coast Hotel Co.

In addition to Kenan, who was elected a director in 1951, FP&L's other board members are Elmer Ericson, Robert H. Fite, Alf R. Nielsen, Benton W. Powell, Fleming G. Railey, William A. Shands, H. E. Simpson and McGregor Smith.

*(Reprint from MIAMI HERALD, March 25, 1954)*

### REFLECTS SUCCESSES AT 83

William R. Kenan, Jr., N.C.Xi '94 (North Carolina) a Founder of the National Endowment Fund of SAE, was featured on the front page of the St. Augustine Record, St. Augustine, Fla., Sunday, May 1, 1955. The headline read: "William R. Kenan, Jr., Looks Back on Successful Career on 83rd Birthday." The article stated that Mr. Kenan's connection with St. Augustine and Florida has covered a span of 55 years and Hotel Ponce de Leon has been his winter home during most of this time. He looks back over a life filled with successes along many lines, and anticipated many more happy and useful years. He is an inventor, discoverer, businessman,

engineer, scientist, chemist, philanthropist, industrialist, financier, dairy farmer and cattle breeder. He has written and published a number of books. Most of these books are in the library of the Levere Memorial Temple in Evanston, Ill. Mr. Kenan has been a long-time contributor to the SAE Leadership Schools.

*(Reprint from SIGMA ALPHA EPSILON RECORD, August, 1955)*

## WESTERN NEW YORK SECTION AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

The October, 1953, DOUBLE BOND, with a biographical sketch was dedicated to William R. Kenan Jr., as a 60 year member, and he was guest of honor and speaker at the October meeting.

William Rand Kenan Jr. was given the Master Breeder's Award of the American Jersey Cattle Club in 1945. The remarkable life of this 62 year member of the ACS is outlined in the DOUBLE BOND for October, 1953.

10/20—W. R. Kenan Jr., 60 year honored member—guest, "Discovery and Identification of Calcium Carbide in the U.S."

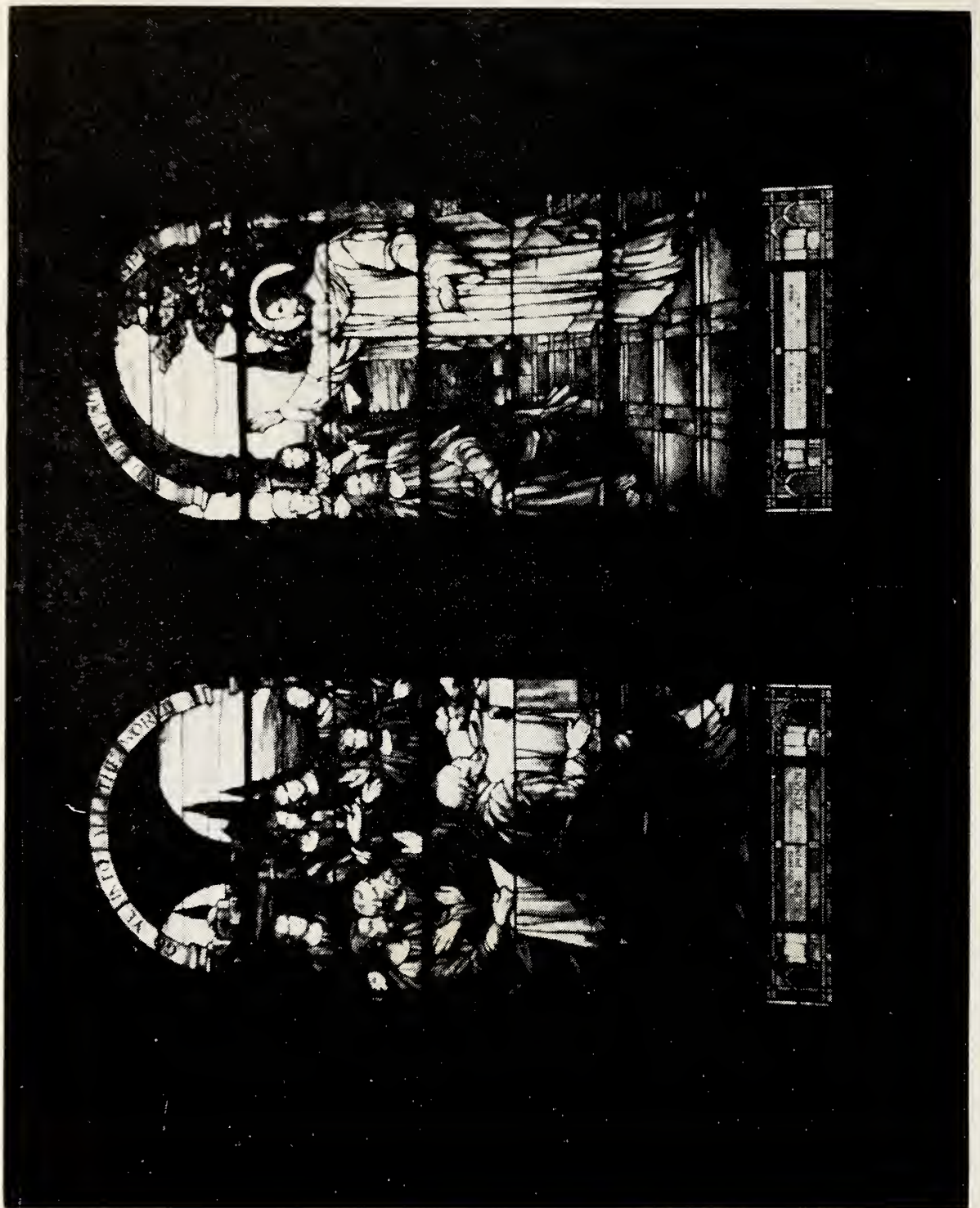
## ALICE POMROY KENAN

Alice Pomroy Kenan was born in what later became the Ashley home on the southwest corner of Pine and Genesee Streets, Lockport, N. Y., the daughter of Hopkins Chillingsworth Pomroy (1825-1890) and Mary Curtis Pomroy (1830-1895).

There were two brothers, Fred who was an officer in the United States Army for many years, and Albert, her twin brother, who was also in government service.

Her father was a leading merchant, having a large hardware store at the northwest corner of Main and Pine Streets. He built what was later known as the Peterson home on Locust Street south of Willow. He was prominently identified with the earlier days of our Church, was elected a Deacon in





Two windows placed in First Presbyterian Church, Lockport, N. Y., by Wm. R. Kenan, Jr.

November, 1869, was Secretary of the Board of Trustees in 1870, and was elected an Elder on September 16, 1874.

Alice Pomroy attended Miss Piatt's School in Utica, and returning to Lockport, became active in community service and in the work of the Church. She taught a Sunday School class, and took her place with interest and loyalty in the Women's Missionary Society.

She and Mr. William R. Kenan, Jr., were united in marriage in April, 1904. When Mr. Kenan and Mr. Fred James gave the Nurses' Home building at the Lockport City Hospital, Mrs. Kenan furnished it. She also gave liberally when the west wing of the hospital was added, and provided a visiting nurse for Lockport before that responsibility was accepted by the city. The central-south window of the Sanctuary is a token of her love for her parents. She and Mr. Kenan have joined in generous gifts for the work of the Church throughout the years and through provision of her will, her love for the Church continues to find expression now and in all times ahead.

In all that she did she was kindly, sympathetic, and unassuming. She had committed her life to Christ, and the Eternal Life which he brought was a constant experience for her here. On February 12, 1947, she went on to life there.

"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord; that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them."

### **"THEIR PURPOSE HOLDS TO SAIL BEYOND THE SUNSET"**

Bernard M. Baruch, financier, elder statesman and advisor of Presidents, will celebrate his 85th birthday today with the same forward look in his eye that has made him one of the country's most inspiring octogenarians.

Men such as Baruch never seem to grow old enough to become preoccupied with the things of the past. They remain adventurers in mind and spirit and their eyes are always on distant horizons.

Former President Herbert Hoover, who celebrated his 81st birthday last week, is another such octogenarian. But it is not necessary to look beyond the borders of our own state to find examples of men whose spirits continue to inspire after they have lived fourscore years.

One of these, WILLIAM RAND KENAN, JR., returned to the news this week when he dedicated Florida's biggest electric



power generator at Cutler. The 83 year old former President of the Florida East Coast Railway and electric power pioneer has been described as the last survivor of the era of Florida empire builders. But his response to congratulations for his outstanding contributions to the state's development shows that his eyes are not on the past. "It's only the beginning," he said. "The future is even more brilliant and breathtaking."

Such octogenarians, as they continue their active interest and participation in the development of state and nation, can say with Tennyson's "Ulysses":

"I am a part of all that I have met;  
Yet all experience is an arch wherethrough  
Gleams that untraveled world whose margin fades  
Forever and forever when I move.  
How dull it is to pause, to make an end,  
To rust unburnished, not to shine in use!  
As though to breathe were life!"

*(Reprint from THE FLORIDA TIMES-UNION, August 19, 1955)*

Lockport, N. Y.,  
August 21, 1956.

Mr. Louis Graves,  
The Chapel Hill Weekly,  
Chapel Hill, N. C.

My dear Mr. Graves:

Replying to your request of the 11th for some more of a detailed account of the installing of the electric light plant and stringing the lines over the campus, I beg to advise that I returned to North Carolina during the early summer of '95 and obtained a position with the General Electric Company and was sent to Chapel Hill to assist in installing a steam and electric plant for the University.

The power house was composed of fire tube boilers of 125 pounds pressure, hand fired. (Today we are operating at 2500 pounds pressure using mechanical stokers and con-

suming powdered coal or oil, or both). This being due to the development of electro metallurgy in producing high tensile steel.

The electrical equipment consisted of two General Electric multipolar direct-current machines with a voltage of 110-120 volts each. These were operated in multiple with a third or neutral wire producing a standard voltage of 110 between the neutral and the outside wire and 220 volts between the two outside wires. The former voltage was used for interior lighting and in close proximity to the plant. The 220 volts circuit was used for lighting the campus and the streets.

All the wiring in the buildings was exposed, that is, held in place by porcelain knobs fastened by means of screws. Where the wires went through a partition or wall porcelain tubes were used as insulators. I remember distinctly standing on a stepladder and driving a screwdriver in the ceiling of the dormitories until my back was broken literally.

There was, in addition to the above, a storage battery set. This was charged during the early evening and as the plant shut down at midnight, the storage batteries carried the lighting load during the balance of the night. The results were entirely satisfactory and were modern and up-to-date at that time. This detail required the summer and fall of 1895. My salary was eighty dollars per month and no expense account except when moving from one location to another.

I was appointed instructor in the Chemical Laboratory and also started a post graduate course, applying for a Master's Degree. I never completed this work since I left to join the Carbide Manufacturing Company at Niagara Falls, N. Y., on January 1st, 1896.

Sincerely yours,

Wm. R. Kenan, Jr.



## HOW I SPENT MY MONEY

Y.M.C.A., Lockport, N. Y.

### CAMP KENAN

1957 .....	\$ 5,000.00
1957 (Swimming Pool) .....	10,000.00
(See Page 113—Fourth Edition)	

University Club, Niagara Falls, N. Y.:

1955—September 10th .....	\$ 500.00
1956—October 24th .....	500.00
1957—January 25th .....	500.00

First Presbyterian Church, Lockport:

1953 .....	\$ 1,500.00
1954 .....	1,500.00
1955 .....	1,500.00
1956 .....	1,500.00
1957 .....	1,500.00

Duplin County Board of Education,  
Kenansville, N. C.:

1956 .....	\$ 1,000.00
1957 .....	1,000.00
1958 .....	500.00

Ohio State University:

1955 .....	\$ 2,000.00
1956 .....	1,750.00
1957 .....	2,000.00

Memorial Presbyterian Church, St. Augustine, Fla.:

1957 .....	\$ 1,500.00
1958 .....	1,000.00

Red Cross Fund—Lockport, N. Y.:

1957 .....	\$ 150.00
(See Pages 103 and 104—Fourth Edition)	

## GARDEN EXPENSE

Including Flowers, Vegetables and Poultry

433 Locust Street, Lockport, N. Y.

43rd year 1955	.....\$ 7,325.91
44th year 1956	.....3,366.29
45th year 1957	.....9,951.74

(See Chapter VIII—Fourth Edition)

## MOTOR CAR EXPENSES, PER ANNUM

1954	.....\$ 3,429.55
1955	.....1,837.57
1956	.....2,665.38
1957	.....3,124.39

(See Page 100—Fourth Edition)

## HOUSEHOLD EXPENSES

1957, to December 1st	.....\$ 2,901.47
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University of North Carolina Scholarship:

1956	.....\$15,000.00
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Endowment Fund:

1953	.....\$10,000.00
1954	.....10,000.00
1955	.....15,000.00
1956	.....2,907.00
1957	.....15,000.00
1958	.....15,000.00

Agricultural Foundation,

University of North Carolina:

1955	.....\$ 1,000.00
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University of North Carolina

Field House (Kenan Stadium)

1957—June	.....\$25,000.00
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Chemical Library at  
University of North Carolina:  
1957—April .....\$ 250.00  
Alumni Annual Giving ..... 100.00  
(See Chapter XI—Fourth Edition)

Lockport Community Fund—Lockport, N. Y.:  
1957 .....\$ 800.00

Young Men's Christian Association,  
St. Augustine, Florida:  
1957—Sept. ....\$ 1,000.00

University of Southern California:  
1957—Sept. ....\$ 1,000.00

## CAMP KENAN

### Y.M.C.A. — LOCKPORT

1954—\$500.00—Total .....	\$150,619.35
1954—Endowment \$10,000—Total .....	40,500.00
1954—Additional Land .....	1,750.00
1954—Endowment .....	5,000.00
1956—Repairs .....	3,000.00
1956—Endowment .....	2,000.00
1957—Operation .....	5,000.00
1957—Endowment Fund .....	10,000.00
1957—Swimming Pool .....	15,000.00

## LETTER FROM DUDLEY WOODHOUSE

Niagara Falls, Ont. (Canada)  
2170 Orchard Ave.,

December 25, 1957.

Mr. W. R. Kenan, Jr.,  
Lockport, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Kenan:

Your letter December 13:

After mailing those papers to you previously I had a feeling of guilt lest you might have thought I had taken an "undue liberty", but after reading that article in the Buffalo News (my favorite newspaper for half a century) describing your wonderful career, I just could not resist, as it brought back so many memories of my own past life.

Many years ago Mr. Geo. O. Knapp of Chicago in reply to a request from F. H. Clergue of Sault Ste Marie, sent me there to act as stenographer, and it was there when you first came into my life through correspondence in which you at times figured, and often seeing you about the area in company with Mr. Horry or von Schon on matters connected with developments on the U. S. side of the river in which Mr. Clergue had a finger in the pie.

I stuck it out with Clergue for three years when I decided on a change of environment, resigned and went back to Chicago, and shortly thereafter was sent by Mr. Knapp down to Niagara Falls, where I was put on a job in the office of the Union Carbide, and here again I bumped into you, usually visiting with E. F. Price, the Manager, and browsing about the plant.

And, Oh Yes, On an earlier occasion still, nearly sixty years ago, perhaps long before your time, my first job as a stenographer was with the Broderick & Bascom Rope Co. of St. Louis, mfrs. of wire rope and steel cables for use in the old street-car Cable Lines of those early days. While



on this job I tapped out much correspondence with a certain Block Co. in Lockport with whom the St. Louis concern did much business, but perhaps not the same one you are directing now, but it brought back another memory of bygone days, accelerated by that article dealing with your past.

While I am in the mood, thought I would like to mention a couple little incidents of those early years that I thought might amuse you: While I was with the Carbide in Niagara Falls, Mr. Price, the manager blew in for work one morning wearing a broad smile; one of the boys in the office asked him "Why looking so happy?" E. F. replied "It's a boy" and then started passing around the cigars. I believe they afterwards christened the babe "Kenan." On another occasion when I was at the Soo, Mr. Clergue's two sisters from down East were visiting him, accompanied by another young lady, and Clergue was escorting them about the plant. As they passed out of the office, I asked the Office Manager "Who was that swell-looking young lady with Clergue's two sisters?" He said "I'm not sure, but I think she is Bill Kenan's sister." Be that as it may.

Well, Mr. Kenan, this has been my Christmas story for 1957. Sorry if any offence, and to You, my best wish for another Happy New Year.

Respectfully,

D. Woodhouse

## KENAN SEES WINTER LEAVING NO REAL SCAR

By EMILIE KEYES

*Feature Editor*

A veteran of Florida Winters since the turn of the century, William R. Kenan Jr., president of the Florida East Coast Hotel and Railway Companies, is not the least concerned that one bad Winter will have any lasting effect on the State's economy.

"The bad weather's all over this year," he remarked Tues-

day afternoon at the Breakers, where he was making an over-night stop.

"I admit it's the worst I've ever experienced in Florida, and I went with Mr. Flagler September 1, 1900. Both the hotel and railroads are off somewhat as a result, but they'll bounce back. The Winter will leave no real scar . . .

"We're satisfied," he added, referring to the Florida East Coast interests. Then, he added: "I think I saw more people in the Breakers dining-room at luncheon than I've ever seen at one time before."

It would probably take much more than a cold wave to upset the equanimity of this remarkable man, who, though admittedly in his mid-eighties, hasn't the slightest intention of retiring from any of his multitudinous interests.

Why should he? After all, he can look back on a business career that began when he was graduated from the University of North Carolina, in which he has never lost one day because of illness.

Far more active than most men many years younger, Mr. Kenan maintains residence in three different places, runs several businesses in addition to his executive duties with the F.E.C. interests. Whether he is in New York or St. Augustine, he makes a point of attending the monthly board meetings in Miami of the Florida Power and Light Company, of which he is a director.

Back in 1900 one of his first jobs for Henry M. Flagler was to design and construct Miami's first power plant. The very first was to construct the original Breakers, the first of two wooden structures that preceded the present magnificent structure, both of which burned.

Despite his interest in railroads, Mr. Kenan keeps abreast of the times and when time is of the essence, he takes to the air.

"Our fastest train would take 24 hours to get me to Miami from New York," he admitted. "I can get there in three hours and a quarter by flying, so when I come down from New York to Summer meetings I fly."

In Manhattan, where the FEC main offices are located at



120 Broadway, he maintains an apartment at the Park Lane. He picked it out on the blue prints years ago.

Mr. Kenan is seeing to it that the F.E.C. keeps in step also. His special project at the moment is completing work on the first motel the hotel company has ever owned.

To be known as the Ponce de Leon Motor Court, the new project has 64 apartments, restaurant and cafeteria. Air-conditioned and heated, it will operate all year, unlike the F.E.C.'s remaining hotels, the Breakers and the Ponce de Leon in St. Augustine, where Mr. Kenan spends the Winter.

The motel, located right on the 4-lane highway between Jacksonville and St. Augustine at the edge of the latter, is built on some acreage that was not needed by the golf course it adjoins. There is also a swimming-pool, and the grounds are to be handsomely landscaped.

The F.E.C. president has high hopes for its success.

Mr. Kenan's Summer home is at Lockport, N. Y., not too far from Buffalo. There he owns and operates the Western Block Company, which manufactures hoisting blocks, and Rand-leigh Farms.

It's easy to tell that his dairy farms, where he raises fine Jersey cattle, is one of the ventures closest to his heart. He has two tracts, one 475 acres, one 190, can't give the exact number of cattle or the output of the milk.

"We produce all the milk and ice-cream that the countryside can buy and take away," he reported. He has no delivery system, doesn't market anything to a cooperative, just sells directly from the farm. His special pride is the way the scientific end is handled, with 15 or 16 scientists gathering each Fall to read reports and compare records of progress.

Mr. Kenan set his pattern of hard work and good health early in life. After graduation, he signed up for a year with the Union Carbide Company for a 10-hour, seven-day week. Before going with Mr. Flagler he spent a year in Australia, one in Germany, three in what is now Czechoslovakia.

As president of the P. & O. Steamship Company he makes frequent trips to Nassau and other Caribbean spots.

The current visit here was a stop-over from Miami, where he had been for his monthly Florida Power and Light meeting. Today he returns by F.E.C. train to St. Augustine, where he will remain until the Ponce de Leon closes. He never drives through the country. For 27 years he has been sending his car and chauffeur down to Florida ahead of his departure by train.

*(Reprint from PALM BEACH DAILY NEWS, Palm Beach, Florida,  
Wednesday, February 19, 1958)*

## DR. KENAN HONORED BY FLORIDA CHAMBER

Eight acres of gardens surrounding the new half-million-dollar Florida State Chamber of Commerce headquarters at Jacksonville, Fla., will soon be formally dedicated as the William R. Kenan Jr. floral gardens, in honor of the industrialist and philanthropist who makes his home in Lockport.

"At the direction of the Florida State Chamber Board of Directors," said Executive Vice President Harold Colee, "I conveyed to Mr. Kenan in his New York offices the board's wish to pay him this honor in recognition of his labors in the upbuilding of Florida, through his association with the late Henry M. Flagler, who developed the Florida East Coast Railway and other Flagler System properties."

"Mr. Kenan expressed his delight, and his thanks to the board," the Chamber executive added. "He is vacationing in St. Augustine and we hope he will be present at the dedication. Through his generosity, Mr. Kenan helped to make our new building a reality."

Developer of utilities, railroads and other enterprises in Florida since the turn of the century, Mr. Kenan is now head of such Flagler properties as the Florida East Coast Hotel Co., the Model Land Co., Perrine Grant Land Co., and the Peninsular and Occidental Steamship Co.

*(Reprint from UNION-SUN & JOURNAL, Lockport, N. Y.,  
Friday, March 28, 1958)*



## FEC PRESIDENT SEES "NO SCAR"

William R. Kenan, Jr., President of the Florida East Coast Hotel and Railway Companies, predicts the 1957-58 winter "will leave no real scar" on Florida's business growth.

"It will have no lasting effect on the state's economy," he said. "Bad weather's all over this year." Kenan stopped for a day and a night earlier this week at the Breakers Hotel.

"I admit it's the worst I've ever experienced in Florida, and I went with Mr. Flagler Sept. 1, 1900. Both the hotel and railroads are off somewhat as a result, but they'll bounce back. The winter will leave no real scar."

"We're satisfied," he added, referring to the Florida East Coast interests. Then, he added: "I think I saw more people in the Breakers dining-room at luncheon than I've ever seen at one time before."

It would probably take much more than a cold wave to upset the equanimity of this remarkable man, who though admittedly in his mid-80s hasn't the slightest intention of retiring from any of his multitudinous interests.

Back in 1900, one of his first jobs for Henry M. Flagler was to design and construct Miami's first power plant. The very first was to construct the original Breakers, the first of two wooden structures that preceded the present magnificent structure, both of which burned.

*(Reprint from PALM BEACH POST, Palm Beach, Florida,  
Thursday, February 20, 1958)*

## WINTER WON'T HURT FLORIDA'S ECONOMY

PALM BEACH, Fla.—William R. Kenan, 433 Locust St., Lockport, who has multiple interests both in Lockport and in Florida, believes that although the winter was the worst he has ever experienced it "will leave no real scar" on this state.

The octogenarian, who told reporters he never lost one day because of illness, said he is not the least concerned that one bad winter will have any lasting effect on Florida's economy.

"The bad weather's all over this year," he said. I admit it's the worst I've ever experienced in Florida and I came here with Henry M. Flagler in 1900. Both the hotel and railroads are off somewhat but they'll bounce back. The winter will receive no real scar.

"We're satisfied," he added referring to his Florida East Coast interests.

Mr. Kenan is president of Florida East Coast Hotel and Railway Companies which control the famous Breakers Hotel in Palm Beach and the Ponce de Leon in St. Augustine. He is also constructing a large motor court near St. Augustine which will have 64 air-conditioned apartments and many unique new features.

The 86-year-old Lockportian also is owner of the Randleigh Farms on Chestnut Ridge and is president of the Western Block Co., Market St.

Far more active than most men many years younger, Mr. Kenan maintains residence in three different places, runs several businesses in addition to his executive duties with Florida interests. Whether he is in Lockport, New York, or St. Augustine, he makes a point of attending the monthly board meeting in Miami of the Florida Power and Light Co. of which he is director.

*(Reprint from Lockport UNION-SUN & JOURNAL, March 11, 1958)*

## **LAND SURROUNDING STATE C. OF C. BUILDING WILL BE DEDICATED AS WILLIAM R. KENAN, JR., FLORAL GARDENS**

JACKSONVILLE, March 22—The eight acre tract of land surrounding the new half million dollar Florida State Chamber of Commerce headquarters building on the Jacksonville expressway, east of the Matthews bridge, will soon be formally dedicated as the William R. Kenan Jr., floral gardens, the organization's executive vice president, Harold Colee announced today. Work of beautifying the acreage is now under way, Colee said.



"Some months ago," he added, "acting at the direction of our board of directors I conveyed to Mr. Kenan, in his New York offices, the board's wish to pay him this honor in recognition of his labors in the upbuilding of Florida, through his association with the late Henry M. Flagler who developed the Florida East Coast railroad and other of the Flagler System properties."

"Mr. Kenan expressed his delight, and his thanks to the board. Currently, he is vacationing at St. Augustine, and we hope he will be present at the dedication. Through his generosity, Mr. Kenan helped to make our new building a reality."

Mr. Kenan is in his eighty-sixth year. He has lived at Lockport, New York, since 1900, but was born at Wilmington, North Carolina, in 1872. He graduated from the University of North Carolina in 1894, after having majored in chemical engineering. He is Chairman of the Board of the Niagara County National Bank and Trust Company, and a director of the Florida Power and Light Company. In the early 1900s he was building gas electric and water plants in Florida for the Flagler interests. He built Miami's first electric plant in 1904, out of which grew the present Florida Power and Light Company.

Upon the death of Mr. Flagler, Mr. Kenan became trustee of the vast estate; that was in 1913. He subsequently became president of the Florida East Coast railroad, serving in that capacity until 1931. He was later co-receiver of the railroad with the late Scott M. Loftin.

As a chemist, Mr. Kenan was co-founder of the Electro-Chemical Society of America. While an undergraduate at the University of North Carolina he discovered carbide which became indispensable as a fuel to illuminate automobiles. In 1927 Mr. Kenan donated \$275,000 for the construction of the university's stadium as a memorial to his father.

Mr. Kenan is still head of such Flagler properties as the Florida East Coast Hotel Company, the Model Land Company, Perrine Grant Land Company, and the Peninsular and Occi-

dental Steamship Company, and is president of several Lockport, New York, industries. He maintains at Lockport one of the finest blooded cattle farms in America.

*(Reprint from THE ST. AUGUSTINE RECORD, Sunday, March 23rd, 1958)*

## **WILLIAM R. KENAN, JR., LOOKS BACK ON SUCCESSFUL CAREER ON 83rd BIRTHDAY**

As he observed his 83rd birthday on April 30th, William R. Kenan, Jr., long-time winter resident of St. Augustine, looked back over a life filled with successes along many lines, and anticipated many more happy and useful years.

Mr. Kenan's connection with St. Augustine and Florida has covered a span of 55 years and Hotel Ponce de Leon has been his winter home during most of those years.

It was in 1900 that Henry M. Flagler, the developer of the east coast of Florida, commissioned Mr. Kenan to do important construction work for him at Palm Beach. And from that time on Mr. Flagler kept the young man busy building water, gas and electric plants in various communities he was desirous of developing.

Mr. Kenan was a valued and trusted associate of Mr. Flagler before there was any family connection. It was in 1901 that the millionaire developer married Miss Mary Lily Kenan, sister of William R. Kenan, Jr.

### **GREATEST SATISFACTION**

When interviewed recently by a representative of the Record at his offices in St. Augustine, Mr. Kenan was asked "Among your numerous enterprises and accomplishments, which gives you the greatest satisfaction?" He quickly replied that the scientific work at Randleigh Farm, his big farm near Lockport, N. Y., ranks an easy first, because it has so many implications for good to mankind.

Many of the experiments carried on there with dairy herds are fraught with good for humans, as indicated by the great



interest shown by many of the big laboratories and drug concerns . . . concerns which follow Mr. Kenan's work done along nutritional lines . . . also the use of antibiotics. Sulfa drugs were being used at Randleigh Farm long before they were ever used on people.

### DIVERSIFIED INTERESTS

It seems incredible that any one man could have achieved success along so many lines as Mr. Kenan. He is an inventor, discoverer, business man, engineer, scientist, chemist, philanthropist, industrialist, financier, dairy farmer, and cattle breeder.

Also add to his accomplishments that he has written and published a number of books. Three volumes are "Incidents by the Way," and form the record of a long and useful life. The others recount the history of Randleigh Farm, and the important work done there, and these are of immense interest to dairymen and cattle breeders everywhere. Mr. Kenan receives requests for copies from almost every country in the world.

Mr. Kenan's books of personal recollections, printed in 1946, 1949, and 1952, are dedicated to his wife, Alice Pomroy Kenan, who died in 1947. He was induced to start this series of lifetime recollections, as he says in his prologue, to the first volume "by affection for my immediate family, and for the younger generation of the Kenan family."

His philosophy of life is summed up perhaps in the foreword to his first volume of memoirs, in which he says "Ambition is a stimulating little quality that prompts one to want any thing they haven't so far been able to possess. No one perhaps ever reaches his goal, but that is not failure. Real success comes with the steady pursuit of what you are trying to accomplish."

### SCOTCH-IRISH ANCESTRY

Mr. Kenan is of Scotch-Irish ancestry, and his forebears came to Wilmington, N. C., in 1730-31. From that time on

the Kenans were prominent in North Carolina and the South. James Kenan was a member of the Committee of Safety for the Wilmington District in 1775; member of the Provincial Congress at Halifax, N. C., in 1778; colonel of the militia of Duplin County during the Revolutionary War, brigadier general of militia after the war, and for many years a member of the State Senate.

William Rand Kenan, father of Wm. R. Kenan, Jr., was a captain and adjutant of the 43rd North Carolina, C.S.A.

William R. Kenan, Jr., was born April 30, 1872, at the family home, 110 Nun Street, Wilmington. Pictures show this to be a gracious type of Southern home.

From a boy he was interested in construction, a bent which was later to play a part in determining his career.

Many of Mr. Kenan's early recollections center about Liberty Hall at Kenansville, home of his paternal grandparents. Kenansville is the oldest town in Duplin County, and many events of historical importance have centered there. Liberty Hall was built in the 1840's by Major Owen R. Kenan, and it is recorded in the annals of the town that there "the most lavish social event in Duplin County took place." That was when the major's granddaughter, Miss Mary Lily Kenan, was married to Henry M. Flagler in 1901. Well-known and distinguished people from all parts of the country attended the wedding.

### EARLY EDUCATION

After attending private schools, and military school, young Kenan entered the University of North Carolina in 1890, taking a four-year scientific course, and receiving his B.S. degree in 1894. The summers of 1892 and 1893 he spent in research work on calcium carbide under the direction of Dr. E. P. Venable. In this connection, Mr. Kenan says, "We discovered carbide, determined its formula and made known the fact that acetylene gas could be evolved from it."

After a year of teaching in a private school for boys in Virginia, he returned to North Carolina, and obtained a posi-



tion with the General Electric Company. As an indication of what salaries were at that time, he received \$80 a month and no expense account, except when moving from one location to another. In 1896 he went to join the Carbide Manufacturing Company at Niagara Falls, N. Y., where he assisted in the erection of buildings and installation of plants, and was made chemical superintendent. That called for work 10 hours a day, seven days a week, and the young man's success in a difficult job may be gauged by the fact that during the year he was detailed to go to Australia for the purpose of developing and constructing a carbide plant. Then he was ordered to London, and thence to Berlin where he was constructing and consulting engineer for the German Acetylene Company. After completing his mission in Berlin, he returned to Niagara Falls, having traveled around the world on business before he was 26 years old. After that, promotions and advancement came quickly. June 1st, 1900, he entered the employ of the Traders Paper Company at Lockport, N. Y., as assistant manager in charge of construction and operation, also holding other positions in Lockport. During 1899 and 1900 he made many trips to New York, and it was there he met Henry M. Flagler. It was in the summer of 1900 that Mr. Flagler was constructing the Breakers at Palm Beach and consulted Mr. Kenan about building a power plant. Evidently Mr. Flagler was much impressed with the young man's ability, for in 1903 he appointed him consulting and construction engineer for the Florida East Coast Hotel Company, and placed him in charge of all their plants. There were numerous other connections with big concerns, and Mr. Flagler came to rely more and more upon the man who became his brother-in-law. In 1904 Mr. Kenan was elected a director of the Florida East Coast Railway and Florida East Coast Hotel Companies. April 9, 1904, he married Miss Alice Pomroy of Lockport. In 1907 he became interested in the Western Block Company of Lockport, which has grown and prospered through all the years.

When Mr. Flagler died in 1913, his will, made many years

before, named Joseph R. Parrott, William H. Beardsley and Mr. Kenan as executors and trustees. He placed the property in trust, with specific directions as to duration, etc.

For many years it has been Mr. Kenan's custom to spend the winter months at the Ponce de Leon, making frequent trips back to New York and Lockport to transact business there. The main offices of all the Flagler companies are in St. Augustine, so this is the most convenient place to establish winter headquarters.

Mr. Kenan is an officer or director in literally dozens of companies and corporations. Since he is exceedingly conscientious in attending to business detail, a vast amount of time is devoted to the affairs of these concerns.

### HONORARY DEGREE

In 1944 Mr. Kenan was honored by receiving the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws from the University of North Carolina at his class reunion (50 years). His humanitarian work at Randleigh Farm and his YMCA work at Camp Kenan were recognized in this way. Camp Kenan has been built on a tract of land on the shores of Lake Ontario at Barker, N. Y. This is the summer camp of the Lockport YMCA, made possible by Mr. Kenan's generous gifts. There are many fine buildings and accommodations for 150 boys and their leaders. Also among his philanthropic gifts are the beautiful Kenan Memorial Fountain presented to the City of Wilmington and the Kenan Stadium, given to University of North Carolina in memory of his parents. It seats 24,000 persons. The First Presbyterian Church at Lockport has benefited by his generous gifts, as has Flagler Memorial Presbyterian Church of this city.

In speaking of Mr. Kenan's gifts, particularly where St. Augustine is concerned, the local Young Men's Christian Association Building might be cited. The building, erected about 50 years ago by Mr. Flagler, at the corner of Valencia and Riberia Streets, belongs to the Model Land Company



which Mr. Kenan heads. It is considered one of the finest "Y" buildings in this area, and the Model Land Company gives the use of this splendid plant to the community. It also maintains the structure at considerable expense annually. This is a magnificent gift to the community, which has no responsibility, except to raise about \$8,000 annually to pay salaries, and keep the extensive "Y" program operating. Many organizations are working with young people in St. Augustine, and providing ways and means of combatting juvenile delinquency. It may safely be said that no one single agency provides so broad a program for youth as the YMCA, or ministers to so many throughout the year.

Mr. Kenan has also shown his interest in the preservation and restoration program for St. Augustine. When Carnegie Institute was fostering a program here some years ago, to preserve and restore ancient landmarks and buildings, Mr. Kenan made a generous contribution.

The Florida East Coast Hotel Company owns, maintains and preserves in dignified and impressive fashion one of the most beautiful and famous hotels in the country, the Ponce de Leon, built and opened by Mr. Flagler in 1888. It is one of the city's greatest assets from a picturesque, artistic and cultural aspect. Through the generosity of Mr. Kenan and the hotel management it is the center of much of St. Augustine's social life each season.

Also, through the same fine consideration and cooperation, the facilities of the Ponce de Leon Golf Club, both the course and the club house, are made available to local golfers, with membership fees being set well below what might be expected. This is an 18-hole professional course, which has become famous through the country. A similar advantageous arrangement has been worked out with regard to use of the Ponce de Leon Hotel pool . . . this is a great boon to Country Club members and their families.

## SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

Since the work at Randleigh Farm is so far-reaching, from a scientific standpoint, it might be said that Mr. Kenan has devoted years of effort and much money toward the accomplishment of a truly unique program. Many scientists from colleges and universities go there by invitation to help with the work, and also to benefit by it. At the model dairy farm numberless experiments are carried on, looking toward the benefit of mankind. The fine Jersey cows at Randleigh Farm are always chalking up records on production, butterfat, etc., due to scientific feeding and other factors connected with their care. The owner has been honored by many scientific groups, and among others was given the Master Breeders Award by the American Jersey Cattle Club. Because of the careful records kept at the farm on scientific tests and feeding, including better pastures, and hay crops, fertilization of fields, etc., information is available to those seeking it.

There are 225 to 230 head of Jersey cattle on the farm, where time, talent, knowledge and money are lavished on scientific care of the stock. As a result, much has been learned concerning nutrition . . . also the diseases of cattle. Each year an agricultural scientific conference is held at the farm, with some of the country's noted scientists in attendance. Annually many young college graduates have an opportunity to work, study and observe at this model farm. Numbers remain at the farm in some capacity, while others, after gaining experience, and profiting by the scientific training, go into farming for themselves.

## HEADS FLAGLER COMPANIES

Mr. Kenan is president of the Florida East Coast Hotel Company, the Model Land Company, and other Flagler System companies. While in St. Augustine, he spends several hours daily in his offices in the General Office Buildings of the Florida East Coast Railway. He is a firm believer in daily exercise, and always walks to and fro between Hotel Ponce





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